

Warwickshire

Wildlife Trust

Events and Activities



January 2010 – May 2010



Creating a **Living Landscape**



What's on and Wild in Warwickshire

We all need nature; whether it is the natural defences of our river floodplains or the restorative powers of a walk in the woods. The Wildlife Trusts' 2,256 nature reserves safeguard special places across the UK, valuable for wildlife and people alike.

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust aims to protect and enhance wildlife, natural habitats and geology throughout Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull and to encourage a greater awareness, appreciation and participation in all aspects of nature conservation and the environment.



Warwickshire Wildlife Trust is the leading local environmental charity (Registered Charity No: 209200).

We protect wildlife and natural places throughout Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull by:

Caring for over 50 Nature Reserves

Campaigning to protect threatened places and rare species

Helping people to enjoy nature in town and country

Working with schools and community groups

Encouraging everyone to get involved

If you have any special needs requirements, general queries, or would like more information, please call **024 7630 2912** or email us at: enquiries@wkwat.org.uk or write to:

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust,
Brandon Marsh Nature Centre,
Brandon Lane, Coventry CV3 3GW

What's on and Wild in Warwickshire



All information is correct at time of going to print. On occasion details may change. For additional information on any events listed or to confirm details please call the relevant contact indicated. Alternatively check our website for up-to-date event listings at www.warwickshire-wildlife-trust.org.uk or call us on **024 7630 2912**.

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Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry, CV3 3GW

Just 15 minutes from Coventry City Centre, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre includes a SSSI Nature Reserve - a peaceful haven for a wide variety of wildlife - plus a Visitor Centre for events and information. Enjoy the following facilities all year round:

- 228 acre nature reserve
- Conference facility
- 7 Bird hides and 10 pools
- Tea room
- Woodland trails
- Interactive display area
- Sensory garden
- Giftshop
- Excellent wheelchair access

Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull, B91 3EN

Set in the middle of Brueton Park, on the edge of Solihull Town Centre, Parkridge Centre offers a tranquil setting for environmental education and information, plus a wide variety of nature conservation events and activities throughout the year. Its excellent facilities include:

- Interactive displays
- Tea room
- Education centre
- Wildlife giftshop
- 5 acre nature park

Conservation Events, Guided Walks and Talks

These events are designed to introduce people of all ages to wildlife and its conservation. They offer you a wide choice of opportunities to learn about the wildlife surrounding us, and develop new skills in countryside crafts. You'll learn about the Trust's Nature Reserves, the plants and animals which thrive within them, and how we look after them. And, by joining in our activities, you'll soon be playing your part in helping to protect our natural heritage. Just take a look at the range of activities, make your selection, reserve your place and mark them in your diary. Booking is essential. Please see details on page 5.



Mid-Week Activities & Weekend Work Parties

If you have spare time during the week and enjoy being out in the countryside, why not join Nature-Force? Our 'Nature-Force' mid-week volunteer group operates on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the year. Transport is provided from Brandon Marsh Nature Centre at 9.00am with another pick-up on the way to the day's task, returning to Brandon for 3.30 - 4.00pm, weather permitting. Nature-Force gives you the opportunity to learn a wide variety of conservation skills - such as fencing and wildlife surveying - with specially organised training days and includes visits to different Nature Reserves throughout Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull. Alternatively if you would like to join the Brandon Marsh Conservation Volunteers you can join the midweek group on a Thursday run by Ken Bond, contact **024 7632 8785**.

For further information on weekend work-parties and/or to book your place on Nature-Force please ring the Reserves Team during office hours on **024 7630 8998**.

Booking

We need to know how many people will be attending each event and, in some cases, places will be limited, so booking is essential. Reservations can be made by calling the Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre on **024 7630 8999**.

If transport's a problem get in touch - we may be able to help. And if you need to cancel, please let us know.

On the day

- Please arrive promptly for the start of the activity
- Wear tough old clothes, stout footwear (wellingtons for wet work), and working gloves
- If it's cold or wet, bring adequate wind and rainproof clothing
- Bring a packed lunch (for a full-day event) and plenty to drink (it can be thirsty work)

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust provides insurance cover for all volunteers, but responsible adults should accompany children under 16.



Education Events

Come to either of our Visitor Centres, where we offer a great choice of fun environmental activities during our Really Wild Workshops.

The workshops are perfect for all children over 4 years old. Children can enjoy the sessions with friends and family. Children aged 8 and over can be left during the workshops, however children aged 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times. To enquire about workshops please call **024 7630 8977**.

Also keep an eye out for our monthly **'Nuts about Nature' Club**. This runs once a month on a Saturday morning at the Parkridge Centre. For more information call **0121 704 0768**.

Kids' College and Children's University

All our workshops can be counted as modules towards Kids' College and Children's University. Children aged 5 – 7 years can sign up to Kids' College; when they have completed 6 hours of activities they will be awarded a certificate. Children aged 7 – 13 can register with the Children's University and on completion of 8 hours of activities receive a certificate.

For more information regarding these awards please contact Carolyn Lloyd on **01926 742252**.



Area Groups

We have five Local Area Groups who organise a variety of popular events and talks in their local area, many of which are listed in this booklet.

They carry out a variety of work on behalf of the Trust, including: highlighting local issues, raising awareness at local shows and events and raising funds.

All local groups are run by much valued volunteers. New members are always welcome, so why not find out how you can get more involved by contacting your Local Area Group representative:

Central Area	Howard Eccles	01926 858378
Solihull	Anne Adams	0121 743 5288
Stratford	Chris Ivin	01608 685695
Sutton Coldfield	Harvey Skelcher	0121 605 9823
Rugby Area	Phil Parr	01788 578272





January 2010

Saturday 16th January **Family Wassailing**

Times: 4:00pm – 5:30pm

Join us in a wassail! Awaken the apple trees and scare away evil spirits to ensure a good harvest of fruit in the autumn. Make trolls, drink cider (or apple juice) and make a lot of noise!

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £4 per person, £5 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

February 2010

Monday 15th February **Survival Dens**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Get Tribal! Make a rainmaker then head outdoors to see if you can survive in the wild.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Monday 15th February **Survival Dens**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Get Tribal! Make a headdress then head outdoors to see if you can survive in the wild.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Tuesday 16th February **Woodland Explorers**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Have some fun out in the arboretum and see what can be discovered in the woodland before coming inside to make a woodland mobile.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

February 2010

Tuesday 16th February **National Nest Boxes**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Celebrate National Nest Box Week and help your garden birds by coming and making a nest box. Then decorate it and keep it to take home and put up in your garden.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members, + £4.50 per box

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Wednesday 17th February **Woodland Explorers for Tots**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

For those of you aged 5 and under, have some fun out in the arboretum and see what can be discovered in the woodland before warming up inside with some winter crafts.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Wednesday 17th February **Nature's Detectives**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Put your detective skills to the test and search the reserve for all manner of creatures. Follow a trail and make a mammal mask.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Thursday 18th February **Feed the Birds**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Help your garden birds through the end of winter by making a bird feeder. Peek through binoculars to see what birds are about.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768



February 2010

Thursday 18th February **Kite Flying Fun – Drop in Session**

Times: 10.30am – 12.30pm

Drop in any time and make a kite from scratch and have a go at flying it on the meadow.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £2 per child (per kite)

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Friday 19th February **Nature's Detectives**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Put your detective skills to the test and search the reserve for all manner of creatures. Follow a trail and make a mammal mask.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Friday 19th February **Woodland Explorers**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Have some fun and see what can be discovered in the woodland before coming inside to make a woodland mobile.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

March 2010

Sunday 7th March **Family Bushcraft Day**

Times: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Come to Parkridge Centre and spend the morning around the fire learning the skills of bushcraft and survival.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: FREE to Watch Members, £4 per child for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

March 2010

Monday 29th March **Spring True and False**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Learn some amazing facts as you walk round the Reserve. Try your hand at some Easter crafts.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Tuesday 30th March **Easter Egg Decorating**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Take an eggspertly boiled egg and decorate it ready for Easter then build a giant nest in the woodland.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Wednesday 31st March **Easter Cards and Chicks**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Come along and help us see if Easter has bought us any ducklings. Make an Easter card to take home.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

April 2010

Thursday 1st April **Easter Card - Drop in Session**

Times: 10.30am – 12.30pm

Drop in any time to have a go at making an Easter Card.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £2 per child (per card)

To book contact: 024 7630 2912



April 2010

Friday 2nd April **Easter Egg Hunt**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Beat the bunnies to find the Easter Eggs hidden around the Reserve. Make an Easter Card to take home.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Friday 2nd April **Easter Egg Hunt**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Beat the bunnies to find the Easter Eggs hidden around the Reserve. Make an Easter Card to take home.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Tuesday 6th April **Easter Chicks**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Come along and help us see if Easter has brought us any ducklings. Come back to the centre to make a bird mask or bird silhouette to stop the birds from flying into your windows.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Tuesday 6th April **Life in the Undergrowth**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Discover life in the undergrowth. See just how many minibeasts dwell beneath our feet. Be inspired to create some natural art on a grand scale.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

April 2010

Wednesday 7th April **Toddler's Easter Chicks**

Times: 10:30am – 12:00pm

If you are aged 5 and under, come along and help us see if Easter has brought us any early ducklings. Head back to the centre to have a go at some bird crafts.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Wednesday 7th April **Den Discovery**

Times: 10:30am – 12:00pm

Form a tribe and make a totem pole before heading out in the wilds to build a den.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Thursday 8th April **Life in the Undergrowth**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Discover life in the undergrowth. See just how many minibeasts dwell beneath our feet. Be inspired to create some natural art on a grand scale.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Thursday 8th April **Willow Wings or Sculptures – Drop in Session**

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Drop in any time to make your own fairy wings, lanterns or bat sculptures from willow.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child (per wings/lantern or sculpture)

To book contact: 024 7630 2912



April 2010

Friday 9th April

Wild Tales for Tots

Times: 10:30am – 12:00pm

Come and listen to some exciting wild stories. Meet our story telling friend and go on an adventure in the reserve. Make some sock puppets to take home – don't forget your sock!

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Monday 12th April

Trail Blazers!

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Orienteer yourself around the nature reserve using a simple map. Solve the puzzles along the way to find out about the animals that live here. Decorate a keepsake.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Monday 12th April

Feed the Birds

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Help your garden birds into spring by making a bird feeder. Peek through the bird hides to see what birds are about.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Tuesday 13th April

Spring True and False

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Learn some amazing facts as you walk round the Reserve. Try your hand at some Easter crafts.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

April 2010

Tuesday 13th April

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Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Orienteer yourself around the nature reserve using a simple map. Solve the puzzles along the way to find out about the animals that live here. Decorate a keepsake.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Wednesday 14th April

Toddler Sensory Fun

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Use your sense to explore Parkridge Centre. How many colours of spring can you see? Make a spring smelly cocktail and have a go at creating your own woodland prints!

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

Wednesday 14th April

Woodland Explorers

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Have some fun out in the woods and see what can be discovered, before coming inside to make a woodland mobile.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Thursday 15th April

Den Discovery

Times: 10:30am – 12:00pm

Form a tribe and make a totem pole before heading out in the wilds to build a den.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768



April 2010

Thursday 15th April Peer at a Pond Creature - Drop in Session

Times: 10.30am – 12.30pm

Drop in any time to have a dip in our pond and see what creatures you can find.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £1.50 per child (half an hour)

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Friday 16th April Creepy Creepy Crawlies

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm

For those of you aged 5 and under, search the Parkridge Centre for the strangest, creepiest creatures. Make your own creepy crawlly craft.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 0121 704 0768

May 2010

Saturday 8th May Family Woodland Adventure Day

Time: 10am – 2pm

A fun filled day out in the woods for all of the family. Enjoy a range of activities including shelter / tepee building, fire lighting, cooking and making different items out of natural woodland materials. Bring along something to toast on the fire and please bring your own packed lunch, refreshments will be provided and maybe a marshmallow or two.

This event is suitable for children aged 8 and above, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please dress in clothes that you do not mind getting dirty and remember to bring along waterproofs and suitable footwear.

Location: Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry.

Cost: £25 for Trust Members, £30 for non-members (2 adults & up to 3 children)

Booking Essential, limited places, contact: 024 7630 2912

May 2010

Saturday 8th May Family Den Building

Times: 2pm – 4pm

Get back to basics! Create a family tribe and see if you can find and make the resources you need to build a wind and waterproof shelter.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £3 per child, £4 for non WWT members

To book contact: 024 7630 2912

Monday 31st May Peek in the Pond – Drop in Session

Times: 10.30am – 12.00pm & 1.00pm – 2.30pm

Drop in any time to have a dip in our pond and see what creatures you can find.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull

Cost: £1.50 per child (half an hour)

To book contact: 0121 704 0768



Conservation Events

Guided Walks and Talks

Conservation Events

Guided Walks and Talks



We welcome visitors to most of our reserves and are working to improve paths as well as providing information signs and leaflets. Please remember the following points when visiting:

- Please keep to marked paths to avoid disturbing wildlife
- Please keep dogs under close control
- Carry your Trust membership card
- Observe the Country Code
- Keep quiet
- Take your litter home



Useful Information

For more information and advice on Conservation Events, please refer to pages 4 and 5.

January 2010

Friday 8th January

Middleton Lakes, Warwickshire's new RSPB Reserve

Speaker: Phil Green

Time: 7.30pm

Location: the Annexe to the Methodist Hall, Old Town, Stratford-Upon-Avon (parking available) Contact: Chris Ivin 01608 685695

Cost: £2.00 for Trust Members, £2.50 for non-members.

Sunday 10th January

Reed Cutting For Wetland Birds At Wyken Slough

Time: 10.00am

Join volunteer warden Jim Jobling for this essential wetland management, improving the habitat for wetland birds.

Location: Wyken Slough, Coventry (Grid Ref: SP362835) Car park off Aldermans Green Road

Cost: FREE EVENT

Booking Essential Contact : 024 7630 8999

Thursday 14th January

Migratory Moths

Time: 7.30pm

Speaker: David Brown

Location: The Small Hall, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield.

Cost: £2.50 to include refreshments

Saturday 16th January

Parkridge Weekend Work Party

Time: 10am – 3pm

Join Warwickshire Wildlife Trust staff and volunteers on one of our weekend work parties? Come along and help us to develop and maintain our 5.5 acre nature area. There will be a variety of tasks suitable for all ages and abilities. For more details contact Amanda Henshaw on 0121 704 0768.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull.

Saturday 16th January

Visit to Ladywalk Nature Reserve

Time: 10.30am

Location: Meet at the Reserve car park, map reference OS 139-209915, contact: Harvey Skelcher 0121 605 9823 for more information. Waterproof boots recommended.



Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks

January 2010

Thursday 21st January **Some Emeralds from Ireland**

Time: 10.30am – 12pm

Speaker: John Roberts

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Contact: Anne Adams 0121 743 5288

Cost: £2.50 including refreshments

Sunday 24th January **Traditional Hedge Laying With An Expert**

Time: 10.00am

Improve your hedge laying skills with expert Steve Boswell. Number of places limited to 20 (over 16 yrs only.)

Location: TBC

Cost: £25 per person

Booking Essential Contact : 024 7630 8999

Sunday 31st January **Workparty: Ashlawn Cutting**

Time: 10am onward

Why not come along and join volunteers at Ashlawn Cutting reserve, Rugby. All very welcome - SP 516732, Rugby Car Park

Contact: Phil Parr 01788 578272 for more information

February 2010

Sunday 7th February **Path Clearance at Harbury SpoilBank**

Time: Please call contact listed for time

Come help us on this limestone grassland to ensure all the paths stay clear and easy to access.

Location: Harbury (SP 384598) Entrance on the B4452

Cost: Free Event

Contact: John Hancock 01926 612860

Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks



February 2010

Sunday 7th February **Tree Felling at Clowes Wood**

Time: 10am

Join volunteer warden Ron Hill for this introductory conservation event on the traditional art of woodland management.

Location: Clowes Wood SSSI Nature Reserve, Earlswood nr Solihull (Grid Ref: SP102744) Please meet in the car park off Wood Lane.

Cost: FREE EVENT

Booking Essential Contact: 0121 705 1429

Thursday 11th February **Orchids and other Rare Plants**

Time: 7.30 p.m

Speaker: Brian Laney

Location: The Small Hall, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield.

Cost: £2.50 to include refreshments

Friday 12th February **Warwickshire's Journey through Time**

Time: 7.30pm

Speaker: Jon Radley

Location: the Annexe to the Methodist Hall, Old Town, Stratford-Upon-Avon (parking available) Contact: Chris Ivin 01608 685695

Cost: £2.00 for Trust Members, £2.50 for non-members

Wednesday 17th February **Bird Surveying Workshop (Session 1)**

Time: 2.00pm (Half day)

This workshop is aimed at the non professional who is interested in helping us survey birds for local projects in Warwickshire. Learn more about the ecology and behaviour of birds. The workshop will involve an outdoor session to help you improve your recording techniques using BTO survey methods. Please note that this is not an identification workshop as existing knowledge of bird identification is required.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761 Meet in the barn.

Cost: £5 per person which will contribute towards monitoring equipment. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912



Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks

February 2010

Saturday 20th February **Parkridge Weekend Work Party**

Time: 10am – 3pm

Join Warwickshire Wildlife Trust staff and volunteers on one of our weekend work parties? Come along and help us to develop and maintain our 5.5 acre nature area. There will be a variety of tasks suitable for all ages and abilities. For more details contact Amanda Henshaw on 0121 704 0768.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull.

Wednesday 24th February **Bird Surveying Workshop (Session 2)**

Time: 2.00pm (Half day)

Due to the level of interest, two bird surveying workshops will be held. This is a repeat of the workshop on Wednesday 17th. Please see above for more information.

Cost: £5 per person which will contribute towards monitoring equipment. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Sunday 28th February **Workparty: Ashlawn Cutting**

Time: 10am onward

Why not come along and join volunteers at Ashlawn Cutting reserve, Rugby. All very welcome - SP 516732, Rugby Car Park

Contact: Phil Parr 01788 578 272 for more information

March 2010

Thursday 11th March **Working with Wildlife at Calke Abbey**

Time: 7.30 p.m

Speaker: Jennie Lloyd

Location: The Small Hall, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield.

Cost: £2.50 to include refreshments

Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks



March 2010

Friday 12th March **Woodland Life**

Speaker: Ron Hill

Time: 7.30pm

Location: the Annexe to the Methodist Hall, Old Town, Stratford-Upon-Avon (parking available)

Contact: Chris Ivin 01608 685695

Cost: £2.00 for Trust Members, £2.50 for non-members

Saturday 13th March **Amphibian Surveying Workshop**

Time: 3pm – 5pm (indoor), 7pm – 9pm (outdoor)

This workshop is aimed at the non professional who is interested in helping us survey amphibians on our nature reserves. Learn more about the ecology and behaviour of amphibians. The workshop will involve both an indoor ID session to help you improve your ID skills, and then an evening visit to an amphibian site in the Coventry area to see the animals in their natural environment.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761. Meet in the barn.

Cost: £10 per person which includes a free Warwickshire Amphibian and Reptile Team (WART) membership. If you book on the amphibian workshop then the reptile one (on 17th April) is free. Price also includes refreshments and FSC identification chart. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Thursday 18th March **Norway - Journey beyond the Arctic Circle**

Time: 10.30am – 12.00pm

Speaker: Anne Adams

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Contact: Anne Adams 0121 743 5288

Cost: £2.50 including refreshments

Saturday 20th March **Parkridge Weekend Work Party**

Time: 10am – 3pm

Join Warwickshire Wildlife Trust staff and volunteers on one of our weekend work parties? Come along and help us to develop and maintain our 5.5 acre nature area. There will be a variety of tasks suitable for all ages and abilities. For more details contact Amanda Henshaw on 0121 704 0768.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull.



Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks

March 2010

Sunday 28th March **Daffodils & Bees At Harvest Hill**

Time: 2.00pm (Half day)

Join volunteer warden Richard Bones for an afternoon stroll to view the wonderful display of native wild daffodils at Harvest Hill reserve. Learn about the habitat management of the site and the wildlife that lives there, why the site is so good for bees and get an up close look at the hives.

Location: Harvest Hill Nature Reserve, 1km NW of Coventry, close to the village of Allesley (Grid Ref: SP279823) – meet at the main gate

Cost: £2 per person

April 2010

Wednesday 14th April **Bird Surveying Workshop (Follow Up Session)**

Time: 2.00pm (Half day)

This workshop is designed to build on and compliment earlier workshops held in February. Volunteers will be able to discuss any problems they have encountered with the BTO survey techniques.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761 Meet in the barn.

Cost: £5 per person which will contribute towards monitoring equipment. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912

Saturday 17th April **Parkridge Weekend Work Party**

Time: 10am – 3pm

Join Warwickshire Wildlife Trust staff and volunteers on one of our weekend work parties? Come along and help us to develop and maintain our 5.5 acre nature area. There will be a variety of tasks suitable for all ages and abilities. For more details contact Amanda Henshaw on 0121 704 0768.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull.



Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks

April 2010

Saturday 17th April **Reptile Surveying Workshop**

Time: 10.30am (Full Day)

This workshop is aimed at the non professional who is interested in helping us survey reptiles on our nature reserves. Learn more about the ecology and behaviour of Reptiles. The workshop will involve both an indoor ID session to help you improve your ID skills in the morning, and then an afternoon visit to a reptile site to see the animals in their natural environment.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761 Meet in the barn.

Cost: £10 per person which includes a free Warwickshire Amphibian and Reptile Team (WART) membership. If you book on the amphibian workshop (on 13th March) the reptile workshop is free. Price also includes refreshments and FSC identification chart. Lunch not included

Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912

Sunday 18th April **Path Work at Clowes Wood**

Time: 10am

Join volunteer warden Ron Hill to lend a hand improving the path to enable more people to come and enjoy this beautiful SSSI.

Location: Clowes Wood SSSI Nature Reserve, Earlswood nr Solihull. Grid Reference SP102744. Please meet in the car park off Wood Lane.

Cost: FREE EVENT

Booking Essential Contact: 0121 705 1429

Saturday 24th April **Visit to Leam Valley Nature Reserve**

Time: 10.30am

Location: Meet at the car park, map reference OS 151-330658, contact: Harvey Skelcher 0121 605 9823 for more information. Waterproof boots recommended.



Conservation Events

Guided Walks and Talks

April 2010

Saturday 24th April **Dragonfly Larvae Monitoring Workshop**

Time: 10.30am (Full Day)

This workshop is aimed at the non professional who is interested in helping us survey dragonflies for local projects in Warwickshire and identify their breeding grounds. Learn more about the ecology and behavior of dragonflies. The workshop will involve both an indoor ID session to help you improve your ID skills in the morning, and then an afternoon visit to see the animals in their natural environment.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761 – Meet in the barn.

Cost: £10 per person Price also includes refreshments. Lunch not included.

Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential: Contact Peter Reeve on 01926 632 400 or peter@reeve60.uklinux.net (Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment).

May 2010

Wednesday 5th May **Professional Development Course: Practical Site Development Ideas for Your Outdoor Area**

Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Why not come along and learn some new skills in dead-hedging, bench making, shelter construction, frame making, habitat pile creation and much more. Strong outdoor waterproof clothing and boots are recommended for this course.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £40.25 per person

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912

Thursday 6th May **Blooming Bluebells**

Time: 7.00pm

Join volunteer warden Jon Holmes and take in this magnificent woodland spectacle throughout Crackley woods! Find out more about the ecology of this woodland and how Jon and his team maintain and enhance the site through careful management.

Location: Crackley Wood Local Nature Reserve, Kenilworth (SP 289738) – meet in main reserve car park off Crackley Lane

Cost: £2 per person



Conservation Events

Guided Walks and Talks

May 2010

Friday 7th May **Water Vole Surveying Workshop**

Time: 10.30am (Full Day)

This workshop is aimed at the non professional who is interested in helping us survey for water voles for local projects in Warwickshire. Learn more about the ecology and behaviour of water voles. The workshop will involve an outdoor session to teach surveyors how to find and recognise field signs of water voles, rats and field voles. Refreshments provided.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761 Meet in the barn.

Cost: £10 per person. Price also includes refreshments and FSC identification chart. Lunch not included.

Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912

Saturday 15th May **Parkridge Weekend Work Party**

Time: 10am – 3pm

Join Warwickshire Wildlife Trust staff and volunteers on one of our weekend work parties? Come along and help us to develop and maintain our 5.5 acre nature area. There will be a variety of tasks suitable for all ages and abilities. For more details contact Amanda Henshaw on 0121 704 0768.

Location: Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull.

Sunday 16th May **Riverside Ramble at River Arrow Reserve LNR**

Time: 2.30pm

Join Volunteer Warden Steve Godfrey for this guided walk along the beautiful stretches of the river Arrow on this flower rich grassland reserve. Maybe taking in the sight of a kingfisher.

Location: River Arrow, Alcester (SP 088 580) Ragley Mill Lane

Cost: £2 per person

Sunday 16th May **Outstanding Orchids** (no dogs except on bridleway)

Time: 2.00pm

Join local ecologist Richard Wright for a walk around Warwickshire's finest hay meadow and see how many wild flowers you can identify.

Location: Draycote Meadows SSSI Nature Reserve, Rugby (SP 448 708) – meet at the entrance.

Cost: £2 per person



Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks

May 2010

Sunday 16th May

Pond Dipping and Surveying Workshop

Time: 4:30pm – 6pm

This workshop is aimed at the non professional who is interested in having a chance to relive their childhood and have a go at pond dipping. There will then be an opportunity to identify the invertebrates and amphibians found. The results of which will then be incorporated into the Warwickshire Wildlife Trusts ongoing pond survey and help us identify both seasonal and annual trends.

Cost: £3 per person or £4 for non WWT members. Price includes a contribution to the Education Team towards new equipment and resources. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential: Contact Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre on 02476 302912 or enquiries@wkwkwt.org.uk (Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment). Please meet in the car park.

Friday 21st May

Butterfly Surveying Workshop

Time: 10.30am (Full Day)

Join Butterfly Conservation for this interesting workshop focusing the ecology and identification of butterflies. This fascinating workshop will involve both a classroom and practical (outdoor) session to Ryton Meadows Nature Reserves. This workshop is aimed at beginners so no previous experience is necessary. Once trained the volunteers can then help us survey butterflies on our nature reserves.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry. Entrance SP386761 Meet in the barn

Cost: £10 per person with some money going to Butterfly Conservation. Price also includes refreshments and FSC identification chart. Lunch not included. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912



Conservation Events Guided Walks and Talks

May 2010

Saturday 22nd May

Introducing Green Woodworking Workshop

Time: 10am – 4pm

This workshop is aimed at anybody who would like to spend a day in the wood creating a simple object (such as a spatula or besom) from scratch using traditional green wood working tools under the instruction of Steve Boswell a local woodworking expert.

Cost: £50 per person, price includes a contribution to the Education Team towards new equipment and resources. Places are confirmed upon receipt of payment in advance.

Booking Essential: Contact Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre on 02476 302912 or enquiries@wkwkwt.org.uk (Places are VERY limited, so book early to avoid disappointment). Please meet at Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre.

Tuesday 25th May

Professional Development Course: Forest School Activity Ideas

Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm

A range of simple activities which will help children to learn in the great outdoors! All materials will be provided. Strong outdoor waterproof clothing and boots are recommended for this course.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £40.25 per person

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912



Weekend/Midweek Workparties

Occasional Workparties



At this time of year there is plenty of work to be done on our nature reserves. Please find below a list of our regular weekend workparties.

Regular workparties meeting every week at 10am:

Every Thursday (at 9.30) Brandon Marsh, Brandon	SP 386761 Carpark	Ken Bond 024 7632 8785
Every Sunday Clowes Wood, Earlswood	SP 101743	Ron Hill 0121 705 1429
Every Monday Cock Robin Wood, Dunchurch	SP 493724	Derek Lill 01788 521069
Every Sunday, until end of March and then 16th May Crackley Wood, Kenilworth	SP 289738 Crackley Lane entrance	Jon Holmes 01926 456215
Every Sunday, until end of March Hampton Wood, Barford	SP 254600	Dave Solliss 01789 205908
Every Sunday Rough Hill Wood, Studley	SP 052637	Val Kendrick 01527 545 742
Every Sunday until end of April Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore	SP 384726	Mike Slater 01788 335881
Every Saturday until end of March Snitterfield Bushes SSSI, Snitterfield	SP 200603	Eddie Asbery 024 7630 8984

Regular workparties meeting at 10am during the winter and spring meet at:

Sunday 31st Jan, 28th Feb. Contact for other date Ashlawn Cutting Rugby	SP 516732 Car Park	Phil Parr 01788 578 272
Sunday 10th Jan, 14th Feb, 14th March Glasshouse Spinney Kenilworth	SP 304714 Layby Glasshouse Lane	Steve Smith 01926 864 759
Sunday 7th Feb, 7th March Grove Hill nr. Alcester	SP 112547 Entrance	Gillian Nussey 01789 773356
TBC Harbury Spoilbank Harbury	SP 384598 Entrance	John Hancock 01926 612860
Sunday 31st Jan, 28th Feb, 28th March, 25th April, 30th May Kenilworth Common Kenilworth	SP 298732	Serena Eccles 01926 858 378
Saturday 20th Feb, 20th March, 17th April, 15th May River Arrow Alcester	SP 088580 Ragley Mill Lane	Steve Godfrey 01789 765 536
Sunday 24th Jan, 21st Feb, 21st March Ufton Fields, Ufton	SP 378615 Car Park	David Morphew 01926 771111

Occasional Workparties, please contact for further information

Brook Meadow, Darley Green	SP 180743 Meet: Bakers Lane	Izumi Segawa 024 7630 2912
Claybrookes Marsh Coventry	SP 380769 Meet: Grange Avenue	Peter Thorne 024 7630 2912
Cock Robin Wood Rugby	SP 493724 Meet: Car park adj. to A426	Michael Drummond 024 7630 8998
Draycote Meadows Draycote	SP 448706 Meet: Draycote Entrance	Michael Drummond 024 7630 8984
Earlswood Moathouse Earlswood	SP 116736 Meet: Entrance	Izumi Segawa 024 7630 2912
Eathorpe Marsh Eathorpe	SP 389687 Meet: Entrance	Caroline Bailey 024 7630 8993
Elmdon Manor Elmdon	SP 163825 Meet: Entrance	Rod Franks 0121 742 8509
Harvest Hill Allesley	SP 279823 Meet: Entrance	Richard Bones 024 7640 3218
Hunningham Meadow Hunningham	SP 373680 Meet: Church Lane	Andrew Phillips 01926 632765
Knowle Hill, Kenilworth	SP 300727 Meet: Greensward Close	Richard Bones 024 7640 3218
Leam Valley, Leamington Spa	SP 330 658 Meet: Entrance	Caroline Bailey 0247630 8993
Pooley Fields near Tamworth	SK 258034 Meet: Alvecote Priory Car Park	Tim Haselden 024 7630 8995
Stockton Cutting Stockton	SP 437651 Meet: Entrance	Julie Turner 07818 579303
Swift Valley Rugby	SP 505775 Meet: Car park	Michael Drummond 024 7630 8998
Tocil Wood Warwick University	SP 304754 Meet: Gibbet Hill car park 2	Eddie Asbery 024 7630 8984
Welcombe Hills Stratford	SP 204562 Meet: Maidenhead Rd	Julie Turner 07818 579303
Whitacre Heath Lea Marston	SP 209931 Meet: Car park	Tim Haselden 024 7630 8995
Whitnash Brook Leamington Spa	SP 334642 Meet: Entrance	Caroline Bailey 024 7630 8993



Dates for
Your Diary



Dates for
Your Diary

Nuts About Nature

Children have a great opportunity to enjoy the Parkridge Nature Reserve on a Saturday morning. The Nuts about Nature Club runs monthly, with 2 hours of Wildlife exploration. Any one aged 5 and above is welcome to join in the fun.

Time: 9.30am-11:30am

Cost: £3 per child or £4 for non WWT Members. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

To book: call 0121 704 0768



Sunday 28th February 2010

The Big Green Event

Come along and find out about the small changes you can make at home and what impact they can have on our environment.

Together we can make a difference.

Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry



Better Nature Photos

All Photography by
Julie Turner



Birds, butterflies, trees & plants — do you have a digital camera and want to take better pictures?

Our beginners' course with tutor Richard Pearce was very popular, so we are thinking of running another one in May.

If you would be interested, please contact Julie Turner on **024 7630 2912** or email her at julie.turner@wkw.org.uk

Richard Pearce is an experienced photographer and teacher; he has had several successful exhibitions and published work.

Wednesday 5th May 2010

Professional Development Course:

Practical Site Development Ideas for Your Outdoor Area

Why not come along and learn some new skills in dead-hedging, bench making, shelter construction, frame making, habitat pile creation and much more. Strong outdoor waterproof clothing and boots are recommended for this course.

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Location: Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry

Cost: £40.25 per person

Booking Essential Contact: 024 7630 2912

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