

# WEST OXFORDSHIRE FIELD CLUB – WINTER PROGRAMME 2023-24

INDOOR MEETINGS are held in the High Street Methodist Church, Witney. Use rear entrance; parking in Woolgate (Waitrose) car park.

## OCTOBER 2023

**Friday 6th 7:15 for 7:30pm** INDOOR MEETING  
Andrew Marshall, Wildlife Photographer: 'Photographing Wildlife'.

**Sunday 15th 10.30am** AUTUMN COLOURS AT HARCOURT ARBORETUM 130 acres of rare trees, acer glade and many species of fungi. Easy walking. Tickets can be bought online or on the door. Adult £6.30, Concessions £5.00 Coffee etc. available. Parking free with entrance ticket. Oxford Lodge, Peacock Gate, Nuneham Courtenay; fakes.trainers.afflicted; **Map Ref: SU555987** OX44 9PX

## NOVEMBER

**Friday 3rd 7:15 for 7:30pm** INDOOR MEETING  
David Endacott, Oxfordshire Bat Group: 'Bats'.

**Sunday 5th 11:00am** FUNGUS FORAY WATLINGTON HILL  
Meet National Trust car park. More details on website.  
**Map Ref: SU710936** OX49 5HS Leader Peter Creed

**Sunday 19th 10.30am:** COMMUNITY PATH IN BLENHEIM ESTATE.  
Point to point walk of 2 miles each way from Bladon to Long Hanborough. Flat gravel path throughout. Meet at top of Park Lane in Bladon on the left of White House pub in Grove Rd by Blenheim gates. *If using pub carpark please arrange with landlord, otherwise along the road.* If a one-way preferred, possible to park at Long Hanborough station and join a lift to Bladon. S7 bus runs from Witney every half hour, stopping by station and very close to Park Lane. **Map Ref: SP447150** OX20 1RQ; *Car sharing very much advised.* Leader Gerry Tissier

## DECEMBER

**Friday 1st 7:15 for 7:30pm** INDOOR MEETING  
Mike Wallen, Bucks Ornithology Society: 'Peregrines'.

**Saturday 9th 12:30 for 1pm.** CHRISTMAS LUNCH at Shilton Village Hall. £15 per person. Soft drinks supplied; please bring your own wine. *Early booking essential. Bookings and payments to Maggie Collins (Treasurer) by Friday 17 November.*

**Sunday 10th 10.30am:** BURY DOWN Three-mile walk on the Ridgeway looking for Short-eared Owls, Corn Buntings and Winter Thrushes. Parking marked on the OS map, accessible from the West Ilsley road off the A34 **Map Ref: SU478841**  
Leader Sue Morton

## JANUARY 2024

SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2024 due by 31st January.  
The treasurer will circulate a reminder and bank details, or a form if you are paying by cheque.

**Sunday 7th 11:00am:** Winter Bird Watching  
Venue to be decided closer to time.

**Friday 19th 7:15 for 7:30pm** MEMBERS' NIGHT  
(Non-members equally welcome!) Bring items/photographs for identification or general interest. If you wish to show any pictures or give short talk, please bring them on memory sticks and notify John Cobb in advance.

## FEBRUARY

**Friday 2nd 7:15 for 7:30pm** INDOOR MEETING  
Jessica Turner, botanist and guide: 'Plants of Norway'.

**Thursday 15th 11am** NATURE IN ART: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR EXHIBITION. Extensive permanent collection. Tickets: £7.00, Concessions £6.50 online or on arrival. Cafe etc. Meet inside. 2 miles north of Gloucester on A38; follow brown tourism signs. **Map Ref: SO847222** GL2 9PG

**Friday 23rd – Mon 26th**  
Late winter birdwatching weekend (to be confirmed)

## MARCH

**Friday 1st 7:15 for 7:30pm** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed by a talk by Martin Catt, all-round naturalist and tour leader: 'Orchids of Britain and Europe'.

**Sunday 17th 2pm:** CIRCULAR WALK FROM ADLESTROP VIA CHASTLETON to look for signs of spring. Approximately 3 miles through interesting countryside. One fairly steep hill. Meet in or near the Village Hall carpark. **Map Ref: SP24227** GL56 0YR  
Leader: Julia Reid

## APRIL

**Friday 5th 7:15 for 7:30pm** INDOOR MEETING  
Annie Thompson-Lynch, beekeeper and ecologist: 'Earthworms'

**Sunday 21st April: 10:30am** BARNESLEY WARREN NATURE RESERVE to see the Pasque Flowers. Park beside A429, 3 miles NE of Cirencester. Please contact Julia for details of exact location. **NB Very steep slopes and a wall to negotiate!** **Map Ref: SP052071** Afterwards, meet at Chedworth Roman Villa for a walk around the Nature Reserve. Car park for NT members and lay-by on the lane 50m from the car park for non-members; café. **Map Ref: SP 056135** GL54 3LJ  
Leader: John Cobb

## MAY

**Friday 3rd 7:15 for 7:30pm** INDOOR MEETING  
Speaker to be confirmed later.  
and ANNUAL PLANT SALE in aid of Club funds.

**Sunday 5th 4am** DAWN CHORUS  
Worth the early start to hear the birds wake up, hope to hear 40 to 50 species. Meeting place to be confirmed.  
Leader Adrian State

It is very helpful to let Julia Reid know if you intend to come on a walk. **Booking is essential, however, for events where numbers are limited.** Also let Julia know if you need a lift.  
**Contact:** julia\_d\_reid@yahoo.com or 07703 552309

FOR MORE INFORMATION and updates to the programme visit **www.thefieldclub.org.uk**; some 'pop-up' walks will be announced by email to members.