



Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

PROGRAMME September 2022 – June 2023



19th September
2022

WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION ON THE CROWN ESTATE Wildlife Officer at the Windsor Estate **Des Sussex** will describe the diversity of habitats within the Great Park, Swinley Forest, Swinley Park and Buttersteep Forest and the richness of wildlife found there. In his highly insightful talk he will also touch on the pressures and demands on the land.

17th October
2022

DISCOVERING THE PURPLE EMPEROR This beautiful butterfly is on the increase! **Matthew Oates**, specialist adviser for the National Trust and Butterfly Conservation, and author of *His Imperial Majesty, a Natural History of the Purple Emperor*, explains why and how we are getting better at looking for and protecting it.

21st November
2022

CHALK STREAMS, EELS AND CITIZEN SCIENCE Project Officer for Action for the Kennet (ARK) **Mia Ridler** helps to restore many elements of local rivers, and will talk about the amazing wildlife found here, including the fascinating European Eel. She will also outline how YOU can make a difference to these vital habitats.

12th December
2022

THE RETURN OF THE PEREGRINE Hampshire County Bird Recorder **Keith Betton** has been studying Peregrines for more than ten years, monitoring nest sites and arranging for chicks to be ringed. These majestic birds returned to our skies in the 1990s after an absence of almost fifty years. Keith tells us about their return.

16th January
2023

BRITAIN'S GROUND BEETLES: DIVERSITY, ECOLOGY AND CHANGE

Dr Chris Foster from Reading University will tell us about this diverse group of Beetles which contain some of our largest and most spectacular insects, as well as some highly mysterious species. He will explore their distribution and ecology and explain how they can inform us about the changes occurring in the landscape.

20th February
2023

TIGERS AND TEASIAS: THE FASCINATING WILDLIFE OF NORTHERN INDIA

Take a trip with local naturalist and wildlife tour guide **Andrew Cleave** to discover the many and varied endemic and migratory species of Northern India... across mountains, forests, marshes and greasslands – and including a small but colourful bird – the Teasia.

20th March 2023

BEAVERS IN LONDON – RESTORING A NATIVE SPECIES Hunted to extinction around 400 years ago, beavers were once a common species in our waterways, shaping our rivers, streams and wetlands. With the restoration now well under way, including recently in London, could beavers help battle the current biodiversity and climate crisis? **Rob Needham** from The Beaver Trust will reveal all.

17th April 2023

JEWELS ON THE WING: THE SECRET LIFE OF THE DRAGONFLY

Nick Percival is a volunteer surveyor and member of the British Dragonfly Society. His insightful talk will help identify common species of these spectacular insects and highlight where to find them, their life cycle, ecology - and how climate change is affecting them.

15th May 2023

ANCIENT TREES AND ALL THAT ROT **Dr Helen Read**, Burnham Beeches Conservation Officer, has plenty of examples of ancient trees within her reserve, to bring to life the intriguing world of rotting trees and the creatures who live in and on them – along with their importance to other species. Come and discover more about this important habitat, and why it needs preserving.

19th June 2023

THE CUCKOO AND THE NIGHTJAR These two charismatic birds, quintessential to our British summers, have many things in common, but also have very secretive lives. Naturalist expert **Brian Clews** looks at their journeys, their part in our folk history, and what modern science has helped us to find out about them.

Our illustrated talks are held on a Monday each month (September to June)
at 7:30pm in the Recital Room, South Hill Park, Ringmead, Bracknell RG12 7PA

Also in the pipeline:

12th February 2023 A Birdwatching trip to Blashford Lakes, Hampshire

A spectacular site for overwintering birds, these old gravel pits have six bird hides as well as woodland and grassland habitats, so there will be plenty for us to spot on this Winter visit (car sharing available).

On a July date to be advised Nightjar Walk

Join us on a Summer evening for a local walk to find nightjars – details to be announced.

Visit our website for up-to-date information on what is coming up www.bfnathistsoc.org.uk

If you haven't JOINED/RE-JOINED THE SOCIETY, now's the time to do it!

Our Membership Year runs from 1st September each year, but any applications received now will be valid until the end of August 2023

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £12 - Members' entrance fee £1

Visitors are very welcome – VISITORS' ENTRANCE FEE £3

HOW TO PAY

PAY ON THE DAY...

You can pay (£12 per person) with cash or by a cheque
made out to *Bracknell Forest Natural History Society* at any
of our Meetings.

PAY ELECTRONICALLY

If you wish to **pay your Annual Subscription electronically**, or to set up
an **annual Standing Order**, our Lloyds Bank details are:

Account Name: *Bracknell Forest Natural History Society*

Account Number: 03481989 **Sort Code:** 30-91-11

IMPORTANT When you pay online, please make sure you also contact our Treasurer
- whose email address is johnwilliams288@hotmail.com with your name, address,
telephone number and email address **to identify your payment and ensure that we
have a complete record of your details for communication purposes.**