



Newsletter No.54 February 2016

Hampshire & Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust
Protecting wildlife. Inspiring people.



Welcome to our Spring newsletter. Included are details of local meetings and talks. Nature Notes and details of activities and records during the year, see more on www.horndeanbiodiversity.co.uk

Meetings and Events in the South Down Group area from February 2016 to July 2016

Wednesday meetings below are all at St. Wilfrid's Hall, Padnell Rd, Cowplain (PO8 8DZ)
7.30 to 9.30pm. Admission £3.00 to pay for the hall etc Refreshments are included

Wednesday 17th February

"Wildlife Secrets South of Butser"

7.30pm



Local wildlife photographers will be showing the results of their recent studies of the lesser known species that inhabit our wonderful local countryside including some very small species that are frequently overlooked but still are an important part of our biodiversity. Will also include some of the interesting species recorded at the "Bioblitz" held at Dell Piece West Nature Reserve in June 2015.

Wednesday 16th March *"An update on the work & projects of HIWWT and SDNPA"* 7.30pm

The Trust's Area Head of Conservation talks on the co-operation between other local environmental organisations such as the South Downs National Park Authority on the protection of wildlife.

Wednesday 11th May *"Ancient Lanes, Woods and hedgerows"* 6.30 to 9pm

A circular evening walk from Jubilee Field to Yoell's Copse and back via Ancient Lanes and Bridleways, following the Horndean Tree Trail and seeing many native trees at bluebell time. Meet at Car park off Catherington Lane/Crouch Lane (MR SU 604135)

Saturday 16th July *The Downs and Hangers around Finchdean"* 10am to 1pm

Join us on a 3-mile circular walk to admire flowers and wildlife along this lovely area of downland and woodland with many opportunities for photography. Meet and park in Finchdean village centre opposite the George Inn PO8 0AL (MR SU739127)

More information about the South Down Group Activities contact any of the following :-
Peter Leversha on 023 92592711 or E < p.leversha@btinternet.com > or
John Vigay on 023 92592647 or E < wildlife@vigay.com > or see on www.wildlife.vigay.com
Horndean Biodiversity Group contact E-mail < horndeanbiodiversitygroup@gmail.com >



News and Nature Notes

February 2016

Diary Dates ahead

5th March Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (Hbic) will be holding their **Annual Recorders Forum 2016** at Littleton Village Hall (SU457323). Those wishing to attend need to book a place by 26th Feb. Further info. from JV

1st April onwards **Butterfly Transect** weekly recording starts in the Horndean area. Further info. from Roger Millett at biffins.route66@virginmedia.com

12th April **Annual meeting of Horndean Biodiversity Group** at Napier Hall ALL are invited to this meeting which will include a brief AGM and an illustrated review of the surveys and projects carried out in 2015 and our plans for 2016. More members would be most welcome to join in, More info. from Deryn Hawkins (Sec.) at horndeanbiodiversitygroup@gmail.com

9/10th July **Bioblitz and Moth Recording** at Hazleton Common and local gardens. Details to be announced and confirmed at the meeting on 12th April.

16th July **Ladybird Workshop** at HCC Chilcombe house. 10am to 4 pm Led by Brian Pinchen, for all levels - Talks, demos and ID Workshop Booking essential (£25 fee) Contact: Christine.taylor@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk

Nature Notes It has been a very wet and windy winter with mud everywhere but spring will surely arrive soon.



The brightest flowers on Catherington Down are Gorse and the most noticeable animal activity were the many fresh mole hills at the bottom end of the Down seen here on 7th Feb. A Red Admiral was seen flying on 11th Feb. in Queen's Enclosure. Many local ponds are now

filling up with frog spawn. It is a good time to study **Lichens** especially where branches have come down in storms. It is worth a visit to Catherington Churchyard where there is a good show of snowdrop seen here on the 14th February.



More local wildlife news can be found on these websites :-

www.horndeanbiodiversity.co.uk
www.horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk/countryside
www.havantnature.net
www.wildlife.vigay.com
www.hwt.org.uk
www.southdowns.gov.uk

