

# Bracknell Forest Natural History Society



Programme 2019 – 2020 **See over for how to join!**

- September 16<sup>th</sup> 2019** **Bracknell Forest Biodiversity and 'Help A Hog'** – *Bracknell Forest Biodiversity Officer Marlies Boydell will discuss the local Biodiversity Action Plan, including species listed and areas protected.*  
*Our AGM will precede the talks described.* *Also discover how you can help the resident and visiting hedgehogs in your garden, by participating in Bracknell's 'Help a Hog' project.*
- October 21<sup>st</sup>** **Bees and Neonicotinoids** – *Dr Ben Woodcock from the Centre of Ecology & Hydrology discusses the implications of using this pesticide, on wild and honey bees.*
- November 18<sup>th</sup>** **Farming for Wildlife** – *Natural England's Des Sussex describes how farmers are successfully working to restore habitats and get more wildlife back onto our farms.*
- December 16<sup>th</sup>** **Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust** – *Colin Wilson, Vice Chair of the Trust, will talk about this wonderful area and how the Trust works, with examples of typical projects and activities involving wildlife and people.*
- January 20<sup>th</sup> 2020** **The Miracle of Bird Migration Explained!** – *You'll never look at robins and mallards the same way again... Expert ornithologist Mark Pearson explains the mysteries of this fascinating phenomenon, without taking away the magic!*
- February 9<sup>th</sup>** **Birdwatching Trip to Blashford Lakes** – *These old gravel pits in Ringwood, Hampshire, are spectacular for the presence of huge flocks of overwintering birds. Join us to spot terns, lapwings, oyster catchers and many more. Free Entry.*
- February 17<sup>th</sup>** **The Wildlife and Geology of Iceland and Norway** – *Naturetrek's tour leader and expert naturalist David Phillips will describe the ecology and landscape of these beautiful countries, including the spectacular sights of the Northern Lights.*
- March 16<sup>th</sup>** **Heathlands Underground** – *Britain's heathlands are of global significance for biodiversity conservation, and Dr Martin Bidartondo of Imperial College, London will describe how the intimate links between fungi and plants help to shape them.*
- April 20<sup>th</sup>** **Swift Conservation** – *Swift specialist and founder of the Maidenhead, Marlow and Cookham Swift Group, Jan Stannard, will talk about how swifts are faring in this area of the country, what is being done to help them, and the very positive progress being made.*
- May 18<sup>th</sup>** **Gilbert White's Birds: Then and Now** – *John Eyre, president of the Hampshire Ornithological Society, will focus on the changes that have occurred in Selborne's birds and other wildlife, in the centuries since the publication of Gilbert White's book in 1789.*
- June 15<sup>th</sup>** **BIRDS OF PREY DISPLAY** – *Join us in the grounds of South Hill Park for a glorious flying display of hawks, falcons and owls, conducted by Paul Gray of GMG Falconry. Meet at the front of the SHP building (adjacent to the Wilde Theatre entrance)*

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



**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £12 - Members' entrance fee £1**

**Visitors are very welcome – VISITORS' ENTRANCE FEE £3**

**SEE OVER FOR HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIETY**

See our website [www.bfnathistsoc.org.uk](http://www.bfnathistsoc.org.uk) or telephone 01344 423440

# JOIN NOW!

## Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

The Society is for everyone interested in natural history and its conservation – both locally, and worldwide. We run a **programme of evening meetings** (see *overleaf*), at which guest speakers give illustrated talks on a wide variety of natural history topics - both local and worldwide.

- We also arrange **outings and field trips**.
- We participate in **ecological projects with other conservation groups** which include woodland, heathland and wetland management.
- **Bracknell Forest Veteran Tree Recording Group** is part of the Society.
- BFNHS also works closely with the **Parks and Countryside Service** of the Local Authority running public events, surveys, wild plant cultivation, etc.

Our Meetings are mostly held on the **third Monday of each month** (September to June). We meet in the **Recital Room** at **South Hill Park**, which is on the first floor of the main house. Doors open at 7.00 p.m. - Meetings start at 7.30 p.m. and end at approximately 9.30 pm.

**Walks, visits, field trips, surveys...** There are always opportunities throughout the year for Members to get out and about - to see, survey or work voluntarily with wildlife... in a variety of habitats.

Visit our website for up-to-date information on what is coming up  
[www.bfnathistsoc.org.uk](http://www.bfnathistsoc.org.uk) and if you have a suggestion for a talk or visit, or for any other ideas or queries please contact **Gill Cheetham** on **01344 423440**, or email [bfmathistsoc@rocketmail.com](mailto:bfmathistsoc@rocketmail.com)

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

When completed, please cut out this form (or photocopy it) and **bring it to one of our Monthly Meetings, with payment of £12**. Alternatively, **post it with a cheque** made out to *Bracknell Forest Natural History Society* to: BFNHS Membership, 10 Shaftesbury Close, Bracknell, RG12 9PX.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to **pay your subscription electronically**, or to set up an **annual Standing Order**, our Lloyds Bank details are: **Account Number: 03481989 Sort Code: 30-91-11**

*When paying by this method, please make sure you also contact our Membership Secretary at [bfnhsmembership@gmx.co.uk](mailto:bfnhsmembership@gmx.co.uk) with your name, address, telephone number and **email address to identify your payment and so that we have a complete record of your details.***