



Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

PROGRAMME January – June 2022

January 17th

THE LIFE OF THE BADGER Joint Chairman of Binfield Badger Group **John Fennell** will reveal the extraordinary lives of badgers, allaying some of the myths and concerns people have... and will explain their importance in maintaining a balanced ecology. John will describe the work the Group do in surveying, protecting and vaccinating these charismatic animals.

February 21st

A LIFE ON THE WING Discover the amazing lives of housemartins, swifts and swallows from **Barbara Polonara** from House Martin Conservation UK, with an introduction to their conservation efforts, and how you can help by putting up artificial nest cups and swift bricks which provide holes for nesting..

March 21st

THE PLIGHT OF THE ORANGUTAN **Tony Buckle**, volunteer at the Samboja Lestari Orangutan Sanctuary and **Lesley Bradbrook** from Borneo Orangutan-Survival UK, will describe the biology of Orangutans and the environmental threats posed to them from deforestation and palm oil plantations. They will describe the important work being done at the Sanctuary to save these iconic apes - and you can help raise funds by taking part in the raffle for a toy orangutan, during the evening.

April 11th

LIFE ON A BIODYNAMIC COUNTRY ESTATE **Niki McCann**, Education Officer at Waltham Place, White Waltham will talk about how the estate engages with the wider community by offering a superb outdoor 'classroom' where they can demonstrate the connectivity within their ecosystems and use nature as a therapeutic tool. Over the years they have built a network of citizen scientists who help to survey wildlife such as bats, birds, moths, bees and spiders.

May 16th

ST KILDA AND THE HEBRIDES – Cruising to the Edge of the World Zoologist **Sara Frost** from Naturetrek takes us on a journey to St Kilda, a UNESCO World Heritage site, sailing to the remote archipelago through the beautiful Inner and Outer Hebrides. She will give an insight into the life of the hardy St Kildan people, who have remarkable self-sufficiency – and having worked for three years as a wildlife guide, will recount and illustrate her experiences of sightings of the wonderful wildlife inhabiting these islands and the surrounding waters... from otters, eagles and seabirds to dolphins, sharks and whales.

June 20th

BIRDS OF PREY IN FLIGHT (Outside event) Come and marvel at the flight of a variety of birds of prey in the grounds of South Hill Park. **Berkshire Birds of Prey** will bring six to nine birds to fly – and will give a talk on these impressive creatures, and their capabilities. Some lucky members of our audience may also get the chance to have a bird flown to their hand.

Please meet us at the front of the Mansion (adjacent to the entrance to the Wilde Theatre) for registration.

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



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