



The Cam Valley Wildlife Group Newsletter

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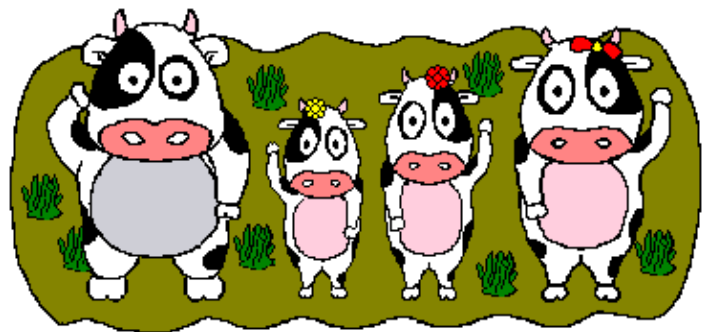
SPRING 2018



Leaf Farm Open Day – 10th June 11.00am-4.00pm

LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming) is a national charity that helps farmers improve the way they farm by encouraging them to take up Integrated Farming. LEAF also helps to create a better public understanding of farming through their national network of Demonstration Farms, Innovation Centres and initiatives like Open Farm Sunday. They bring farmers and consumers together to raise awareness of how farmers are working in harmony with nature to produce good food with environmental care.

Hundreds of farms all over the country will open their gates for LEAF **Open Farm Sunday 2018** on the **10th June**. As the farming industry's annual open day, it offers a fantastic chance for people to discover real farming at first hand and see for themselves how their food (and much more besides) is produced. It is also a great way for farmers to shine a light on what they deliver and why supporting British farming matters.



Since the first Open Farm Sunday in 2006, over 1600 farmers across the UK have opened their gates and welcomed two million people onto their farm for one Sunday each year. Taking part again this year will be Fosse Farm at Stratton-on-the-Fosse. Sue & Jeremy Padfield from Fosse Farm and Rob & Suz Addicott from nearby Manor Farm will be hosting another entertaining day for adults and children alike.



We are hoping that some Cam Valley Wildlife Group members will support the event by volunteering to help on the day. People will be needed to man our display board and recruitment table, leading walks along the

nature trail and generally inspiring visitors – whatever you can turn your hand to.

If you are not able to do that we do encourage you to come along to enjoy the event and show your support. You can find out more about LEAF Open Days on their website www.farmsunday.org

If you would like to volunteer or if you need any more information please contact: Andre.Fournier@btinternet.com or on 01761 418153 or Sue Padfield on 01761 232303 or 07792520902

André Fournier

Events programme April – September 2018

Sunday 22 April 2018

Bluebells and early butterflies at Long Wood, Cheddar.

Meet at 10am in layby near Black Rock Reserve. We will aim to car share as much as possible as parking is limited.

Morning walk – bring drink and snack.



Sunday 20 May 2018

Bitterns & birds (including Hobbies) at Ham Wall, near Glastonbury. **Meet at 2.00pm in the car park** – £3 parking charge if not RSPB member. Meare, Ashcott, Glastonbury BA6 9SX. Afternoon walk – bring drink and snack.



Saturday 23 June

Stert Marshes near Bridgwater – return visit to this new WWT site. **Meet at 11.00 am in the main car park** Stert Drove, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2PU. A lovely reserve, full of birds and butterflies. Bring drink and packed lunch.

Saturday 28 July

Willow and wildlife at Coates Willow Centre, Stoke St Gregory.

Meet at 2pm in the visitor centre – entry is free. There is also a café – the Lemon Tree. Meare Green Court, Stoke St Gregory, north east of Taunton TA3 6HY

Gentle walk through the withy beds, or a longer circular walk along the River Tone and up to the viewpoint on the top of Windmill Hill. We hope to see lots of dragonflies.

August

Date to be confirmed – visit to seaside planned

September

Date to be confirmed – visit to Bristol Zoo planned

If you need any more information about anything please phone Judy on 07460 278311 or email judy@swallowcharity.org

Botany walks 2018

Contact Helena Crouch for more information on any of the walks.

Tel: (01761) 410731 or mobile: 07773037001. Email: helenacrouch@sky.com

All walks are on **Wednesday** evenings, meeting at **7.00 pm**.

Please lift share whenever possible – parking may be limited. **Everyone is welcome.**

Wed 4 Apr

KILMERSDON [6952]

Park in Kilmersdon and meet outside the church (ST695524) for a walk around the village.

Wed 11 Apr

TIMSBURY [6658]

Park in Timsbury (e.g. in car park off the High Street, or on street) and meet at the Church gate on west side of The Avenue (ST667586), for a walk around the village.

- Wed 18 Apr** **BROADWAY LANE / LOVERS LANE [6656]**
Park and meet on the verge in Broadway Lane (ST668561) for a walk around the lanes and footpaths.
- Wed 25 Apr** **FARRINGTON GURNEY [6355]**
Park locally (e.g. Main Street) and meet outside the village hall (ST631556) for a walk around the village and churchyard.
- Wed 2 May** **SILVER STREET NATURE RESERVE [6653]**
Meet at the entrance to the reserve, which is off Silver Street, down the footpath north of the restored Midsomer Norton South station (ST664537). Park locally and walk to the site.
- Wed 9 May** **NORTON ST PHILIP [7755]**
A walk to the south of the village. Entering Norton St Philip from the west, take first left (Ringwell Lane) and park in Springfield, which is 2nd on the left off Ringwell Lane (ST770558). Please lift share if you can.
- Wed 16 May** **OLD MILLS [6555]**
Park locally (e.g. Tesco/Wickes) and meet opposite the entrance to Wickes car park on the north side of A362 (ST652550) for a walk to the north.
- Wed 23 May** **SHORTWOOD COMMON [5955]**
Park and meet on Shortwood Common (ST597553) for a walk to the north. Take A39 towards Wells. At crossroads before you reach Chewton Mendip, turn Right. At T-junction turn sharp Right and at the next T-junction turn Right. Follow road round bend then turn Left which brings you to the common. Park on the verge – please lift share.
- Wed 30 May** **FOSSE WAY FROM DUNKERTON [7159, 7160, 7260]**
Park and meet in the layby (ST715597) on west side of A367, which is just up the hill from the turning to Dunkerton, for a walk up the Fosse Way.
- Wed 6 Jun** **FOLLY HILL, MIDSOMER NORTON [6553]**
Park locally and meet in Clapton Road at the start of the footpath leading up to Folly Hill (ST655539). (Walk led by Peter this week).
- Wed 13 Jun** **CHEW DOWN, CHEWTON MENDIP [6053]**
Park and meet at beginning of Cole's Lane in Chewton Mendip (ST598531). Take A39 to Chewton Mendip and turn left before new houses. The walk is along the ridge at the edge of the CVWG area.
- Wed 20 Jun** **RIVER CAM, N OF PAULTON [6457]**
Park and meet in Paulton village car park (ST651566) – entrance is almost opposite the Red Lion pub. A walk to the River Cam and maybe along the disused railway, returning for refreshments in Helena's garden, weather permitting.
- Wed 27 Jun** **TUNLEY to CARLINGCOTT [6958]**
Park in Tunley (e.g. on main street) and meet at the N end of Stoneage Lane (ST692593) for a long walk to Carlingcott and back.
- Wed 4 Jul** **EXCURSION TO BURRINGTON HAM [4858]**
Park and meet in layby at the top of Burrington Combe (ST489581). Please lift share if you can. We should see many species which are absent from the Cam & Wellow Valleys.

- Wed 11 Jul CLANDOWN BOTTOM [6756]**
Park locally and meet by the triangle (ST679561) at the end of the lane to the former church for a walk down Pow's Hill and up Clandown Bottom. A long circular walk.
- Wed 18 Jul FARMBOROUGH [6560]**
Park tidily and meet in The Street outside the Primary School (ST658605) for a walk to the north west of the village in a square we visited in 2015 but in the spring.
- Wed 25 Jul CAMERTON BATCH (EAST) / MEADGATE [6858]**
Park and meet at side of Bridge Place Road (ST684579): go north through Camerton and turn right at the crossroads at the bottom of hill. Cross the bridge and park on the wider open part of the road. Please lift share where possible.
- Wed 1 Aug STONY LITTLETON LONG BARROW [7356, 7357]**
Park and meet in car park along the track to Greenacres (ST734568) for a walk to the Long Barrow.
- Wed 8 Aug TYNING, RADSTOCK [6955]**
Park and meet in the car park on Waterloo Road, just past the Miners' Memorial Garden (ST689549) for a walk to Tynning. (Walk led by Peter this week).
- Wed 15 Aug SHOSCOMBE [7156]**
Park and meet outside the school (ST717561) for a walk around the village.
- Wed 22 Aug CAMELEY AND NANNY HURN'S LANE [6057]**
Meet on the verge past Cameley Lodge (ST608575) for a walk along the lane and on the hills north of Cameley. Either park here or by the church.
- Wed 29 Aug STON EASTON [6253]**
Park and meet on the verge of A37 opposite the Church (ST623534).
- Wed 5 Sept SOUTH STOKE [7461]**
Park in South Stoke and meet at the seat on the green (ST746613) for a toddle round the village to finish at the Packhorse Inn.

Helena Crouch

Next Newsletter: The copy date for the next Newsletter is **15th June 2018**.

This Newsletter is published four times a year by Cam Valley Wildlife Group, an independent, volunteer-run wildlife group, covering Midsomer Norton, Radstock and surrounding villages.

To contribute articles, or provide feedback on previous articles, contact the Editor:

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For further information, contact André on: 01761 418153, or visit our website: <https://cvwg.org.uk>