

# Essex Birdwatching Society Newsletter



**EBwS.org.uk**

Connecting Essex birders for over 60 years

Registered Charity No: 1142734

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**August 2017**

Dear Members

It's that time of year when I always feel a bit lost, with no birding trips or talks now in the diary until September. However I do enjoy improving my butterfly identification skills, a great way to do this is participate in the 'big butterfly count'. I also enjoy going to the Bird Fair in August, catching up with friends, a bit of celebrity spotting and dreaming of my next birding destination.

Emma

## EBwS Field Trip

**Sunday 20 August**

**THE BIRD FAIR  
RUTLAND WATER**

The Anglian Water Birdwatching Centre on the Egleton Reserve at Rutland Water is home of the annual 'Bird Fair', where you have the opportunity to birdwatch from the 30 hides, book your next holiday, purchase a field guide or clothing, take in a lecture or two or just enjoy the many displays in the huge marquees and outside exhibits. Internet pre-booking is possible with reduced rates for RSPB/EWT members (Valid cards must be presented at the entrance on the day).

*"In 2017, Birdfair will be supporting the project "Saving Paradise in the Pacific", raising funds for vital work to save endangered species from extinction. Here, invasive non-native species are decimating populations of native birds, including the Rapa Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus huttoni* (Endangered), Newell's Shearwater *Puffinus newelli* and Polynesian Storm Petrel *Nesofregatta fuliginosa*, along with ten other threatened seabirds. Money from Birdfair will help BirdLife International and local partners restore the Rapa islets to their former glory." - see - <http://birdfair.org.uk/>*



**Coach trip commences from Trinity Church (opposite the County Hotel) at 07:00am, Chelmsford only.** There is a large 'free' car park next to County Hotel in Chelmsford. Please call Gerry Johnson on 07775 663166 (after 7:00pm) for more details and to reserve coach seats. Coach trips cost £20.00-£23.00 each, subject to destination and attendance. Accompanied juniors travel 'free'. An entrance charge applies to some venues and reserves for non-members. To avoid disappointing anyone on a waiting list, non-attended coach bookings, without 24hrs cancellation notice, will incur the full trip cost.

## EBwS Events

**Sunday 27 August**

**EWT Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve**

Swallow Birding and Essex Birdwatching Society will be back at EWT Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve on August Bank Holiday weekend with guided walks around the reserve. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Essex Wildlife Trust*  
Fingringhoe Wick Visitor Centre & Nature Reserve



**MIGRATION DAY**  
*Sunday 27th August 2017*  
**10.00am - 4.00pm**

Guided bird walks around the nature reserve with expert guides

Help with bird identification

Food and drink in the tearoom

Bird feeders and bird food



*Exhibiting throughout the day:*

*Swallow*  
**BIRDING**  
Swallow Birding  
(Birdwatching Tours and Day Trips)  
www.swallowbirding.co.uk



**Essex Birdwatching Society**  
www.ebws.org.uk

*Please ring the Visitor Centre at Fingringhoe Wick on 01206 729678 for more details*

Registered Charity No. 210065      Protecting Wildlife for the Future and for the People of Essex

## EBwS Bird Records

Thank you for adding all your bird sightings on our website- [EBwS.org.uk](http://EBwS.org.uk)

*Your contributions are really valuable as they help to build our knowledge of the birds of Essex which supports our conservation work.*

## Other Events

### Hen Harrier Day at RSPB Rainham Marshes



The poster features the RSPB logo with the tagline 'giving nature a home' in the top left. In the top right, there is a silhouette of a hen harrier with the text 'HEN HARRIER DAY'. The main title 'Hen Harrier Day 2017' is in large blue font. Below it, the date and time are listed: 'Saturday 5 August, activities all day. Rally with speakers begins at 11am'. The text describes the event at RSPB Rainham Marshes, organized by Birders Against Wildlife Crime, celebrating hen harriers and publicising their plight. It mentions TV conservationist Chris Packham and includes a photo of him. A quote from him says 'We want our Hen Harriers back'. Practical information about transport and parking is provided. At the bottom, there are social media links for RSPB and BAWC, and the RSPB logo.

**rspb** giving nature a home

**HEN HARRIER DAY**

# Hen Harrier Day 2017

**Saturday 5 August, activities all day.  
Rally with speakers begins at 11am**

RSPB Rainham Marshes is hosting an event organised by *Birders Against Wildlife Crime* to mark **Hen Harrier Day 2017**, celebrating hen harriers and publicising their plight.

Join us and TV conservationist **Chris Packham** for this rally and activities suitable for everyone.

Join us in saying  
**'We want our Hen Harriers back'.**

We're anticipating a busy day. Please consider coming by public transport. The reserve is just a ten minute walk from Purfleet station on the C2C line. Additional car parking is available at Purfleet public car park, just west of the train station.

Visit [rspb.org.uk/Rainham](http://rspb.org.uk/Rainham)  [/RSPBUrban](https://twitter.com/RSPBUrban) 

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity. England and Wales no. 227076, Scotland no. 800176M

### Big Butterfly Count

Don't forget to record your sightings.



The banner features the Butterfly Conservation logo on the left, which includes a stylized butterfly with a green body. The main text 'big butterfly count' is in large, bold, green letters with a white outline. Below it, the dates '14th July - 6th August' are written in a smaller green font.

**Butterfly Conservation**

# big butterfly count

14th July - 6th August

"The **big butterfly count** is a nationwide survey aimed at helping us assess the health of our environment. It was launched in 2010 and has rapidly become the world's biggest survey of butterflies. Over 36,000 people took part in 2016, counting almost 400,000 individual butterflies and day-flying moths across the UK" – see <http://www.bigbutterflycount.org/>