Dear Members,

Here are a few events for the end of October and most of November. As it is Half term week, why not interest your children/grand children in nature with an outing to the Lodge, RSPB for hands on experience? Or you might visit a Wetland Trust with them?. It has not got to be all bonfires and witches!

Happy birding…………..

Dominique.

Talks at EBwS ...

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<tr>
<th>Friday 4th November</th>
<th>Fighting for Birds</th>
<th>Dr Mark Avery</th>
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<td>Dr Mark Avery</td>
<td>delivers a powerful talk about extinction! The Passenger Pigeon was the most numerous bird species on the planet just 50 years before it was driven to extinction! – How? Why? The Hen Harrier, our most beautiful bird of prey, is now the most persecuted bird in Britain! – How? Why? PLEASE NOTE this meeting will be held at the TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2XB. An excellent talk not to be missed.</td>
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Dr Mark Avery is a writer, blogger and environmental campaigner. He worked for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for 25 years and was its Conservation Director for nearly 13 years. Some of his books are listed below:

Other Bird Talks

Tues 25 October: 'The Lodge, Past and Future' with Peter Bradley RSPB Senior Site Manager, The Lodge and Fowlmere. 8pm at United Reformed Church Hall, Mill Lane, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire , RSPB group South East Hertfordshire
Shenfield & Grays pick-ups as required. All Coach trips commence from Trinity Church (opposite the County Hotel) at 07:15 for 07:30, unless stated otherwise, with pick-ups at Shenfield High School at 07:45 and Oak P.H. Grays at 08:00 or Swan P.H. Stanway at 08:00, depending on the direction on the day. There is a large 'free' car park next to County Hotel in Chelmsford. Coach trips cost £20.00-£22.00 each, subject to destination. Accompanied juniors travel 'free'. An entrance charge applies to some venues and reserves for non-members of RSPB, WWT, Wildlife Trusts, etc. To avoid disappointing anyone on a waiting list, non-attended coach bookings, without 24hrs cancellation notice, will incur the full trip cost. For more details and to reserve coach seats, phone Gerry Johnson on 07775 663166 (after 19:00).
**Other Bird Outings**

**Sunday 20 Nov:** Walk - West Canvey Marsh with the RSPB Chelmsford Group. 10.00 am. No charge. Tel: 07985 796657, email: vivconnett@mail.com

**Sun, 30/10/2016** - Autumn Waders on Two Tree Island
10:00am - 1:00pm - Essex Wildlife Trust
Venue: West end of Two Tree Island. Autumn is a great time for wader-watching. Join our guides to find out which waders can be found in the lagoon and how to identify them. Look for Brent Geese, too. Telescopes will be available to get close-up views.

**Sat 05 Nov** - Birding day - Ducks and gulls—9:30am - 3:00pm  Essex Wildlife Trust
Venue: Abberton Reservoir Visitor Centre. Get out and about on the nature reserve and around the reservoir to see how many ducks and gulls you can identify in the day. Our expert will help you with your basic identification skills.
Places limited to 6 so please book early to avoid disappointment. Bring any optical equipment that you have.

**Sat, 12/11/2016** - Wildlife Walk: Fen Drayton Lakes RSPB Reserve - 10:30am - 4:00pm
Essex Wildlife Trust Brentwood and Billericay local group. Venue: Fen Drayton Lakes RSPB Reserve, Fen Drayton Road, The Grange. A walk round this recently developed RSPB Reserve west of Cambridge. Several large disused gravel pits offer excellent opportunities for watching waders and wildfowl. Open to non-members.

**Wed, 09/11/2016** - 1:00pm - 3:00pm and **Sat 19 Nov** 12.45pm-3.45pm - Essex Wildlife Trust “birdwatching boat trips” a special two hour low tide trip. Tickets: 3hr trip £40 pp, 2 hr trip £28 ppo with a limit of 8 people per trip. Advance booking essential. Call 01621 862960 9am-5pm Mon-Fri. Exploring the sheltered coastal waters and mudflats around Tollesbury and Mersea, with expert local guides.

**Photography**

Bird & Wildlife - Digital Photography (5 Week Course)
Tue, 01/11/2016 - 12:45pm - 3:15pm - Essex Wildlife Trust
Digital Photography 5 week course delivered by Havering Adult College commencing Tuesday 1st November and every Tuesday for five weeks - 12.45 - 3.15pm. Fee £70.00 60+ £53.00 Book your place direct with Havering Adult College on 01708 434955

**For Children**

30 October, 11am – 3pm: Engage children and take them to the Give Nature a Home Festival at the RSPB’s HQ, The Lodge, Beds. Includes bird ringing demos, bird feeding, owl pellet dissection, small mammal trapping. rspb.org.uk/thelodge

**Other News**

Canvey Wick Nature Reserve is to be expanded to around 150 hectares following the transfer of adjoining land from Morrisons to the Land Trust. Canvey Wick was designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in February 2005. With this new partnership people will soon be able to explore the reserve. For more information: http://thelandtrust.org.uk/space/canvey-wick/

On 17 Oct a Golden Eagle escaped from its owner in Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire. Just in case it has not been recaptured when you read this, if you see it in your patch, call 101 but do not approach it! The bird has leather tethers hanging from its feet and has been on the loose in the Sarratt area of Hertfordshire....

Thank you for adding all your sightings on the website