

Natural History – Looking at our Wildlife

Saturday 11 June 2016

Berks., Bucks. & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) Woolley Firs, Environmental Education Centre, Hasker House, Cherry Garden Lane, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 3LJ.

<http://www.bbowl.org.uk/woolley-firs-environmental-education-centre>



Programme (activities not shown as "outdoor" will take place in the Education Centre)*
09:30 Opening of moth traps for live identification of the night's catch (outdoor activity).
U3A members may attend by prior arrangement (see application form) but numbers will have to be limited.

Note: Moth trapping will have begun at around 20:30 the previous evening and continued through the night, operated by members of the Berkshire Moth Group.

10:00 Registration and refreshments (for official start of the event at 10:30) including a review of the moth trapping.

10:30 Welcome and brief introduction by Jon Cole (wildlife consultant, U3A).

10:40 Talk in the Education Centre by Martin Woolner (wildlife consultant and BBOWT "Key Volunteer") introducing BBOWT and the Woolley Firs Reserve.

11:15 First practical outdoor activity - choice **on the day** of:

- **Examination of field margins for nectar sources for pollinators** – led by Bryan Williams (pollinator expert, Wokingham U3A).
- **Looking at Insects – collection and identification** – led by Jon Cole.
- **Investigation of Woodland ecology** – led by Martin Woolner (tricky terrain*, especially if wet).

(All of these will involve a walking tour of about a half mile within the reserve)

12:30 Lunch (buffet at £6 per head or bring your own).

13:15 Second practical outdoor activity (as above).

14:30 Orchids in the Thames Valley – Bryan Williams

15:15 Tea break

15:30-16.00 Roundup of the day – discussion and questions.

Note: Wildlife does not fuss much about the weather, so neither shall we. **Please bring suitable attire and footwear.** However, if conditions prove very unfavourable for outdoor activities the programme may have to be modified.

* Not wheelchair friendly. The other walks are suitable for wheelchairs.

The fee for this study day is £10 for members of the Thames Valley network. Non TVN members are welcome at an extra £2 if space is available. We are restricted to 45 people.

Further information can be obtained from :

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