



Your local wildlife news

Blyth Valley & Southwold Wildlife Group is part of Suffolk Wildlife Trust's county volunteer network. Led by local Trust members, the group organises events, talks and wildlife activities and raises money for the Trust, to help safeguard our wild and beautiful county.

UPDATE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

Blyth Valley and Southwold Wildlife Group's series of winter talks has been well attended this season and we have had extremely fascinating, illustrated talks which have educated, entertained and enthralled us. Thank you to all our speakers.

The Butterflies of Suffolk Wildlife Trust Reserves was the title of our talk in November 2022 given by Steve Aylward. Steve illustrated his presentation with stunning photographs of butterflies and close ups which allowed you to see the smallest, exquisite details of these beautiful insects. We learned what the Trust is doing to provide the specialist habitats that different butterflies need to thrive and how we can garden our own spaces to help butterflies.

At the January 2023 meeting Adam Burrows, from Natural England, gave a fascinating, illustrated talk on The Changing Coastline of East Anglia. Using maps and diagrams, he showed the constant changes from Neolithic times to the modern day. Adam explained the different responses to coastal protection and how a managed retreat can, when appropriate, bring advantages to wildlife.

In February 2023 Paul Davis, from the RSPB, presented his illustrated talk on Beach Nesting Birds of East Anglia. He gave us a very detailed account of the incredible care the RSPB and volunteers take to protect the little tern and also ringed plover nesting colonies around our coast. Every decision taken must be carefully weighed to ensure that they are not doing damage to other vulnerable species.

Looking forward, our talk on 14 September 2023 will have a musical twist. Saffron Summerfield, a musician, composer and bird song recordist will explore how, why and when a bird sings. Bird song has inspired many classical composers and can affect our wellbeing. It is sure to be a fascinating topic.

I would like to thank all the committee members, and their partners, for their unwavering support and all the hard work that they do for this group and Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Terry Payne, Chairman



Be part of Team Wilder

Research shows that if just one person in every four takes up a cause, this can be enough to change the minds and behaviour of the majority. Imagine what we could achieve if that cause was nature: if a quarter of people in Suffolk created more space for wildlife to bring back what we've lost.

**#Team
Wilder**
suffolkwildlifetrust.org

WORKING TO IMPROVE MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Getting the best outcomes for Suffolk's nature from major infrastructure projects has become increasingly important in recent years as the number of big energy schemes in the county has continued to grow.

These Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) have their own planning process and can present challenges for protecting wildlife because their benefits are often seen as outweighing any negative impacts they might have on the environment.

This means that even legally protected wildlife sites and habitats do not always emerge unscathed. Consequently, Sizewell C will see the destruction of a significant area of the Sizewell Marshes Nature Reserve. The construction of offshore wind farms can impact on marine wildlife, for which the North Seas Special Area of Conservation was created.

Meanwhile the landfall locations being proposed on the Suffolk Coast for import cables bringing electricity from offshore wind farms, risk affecting internationally important wildlife

sites. We need the energy from offshore wind farms if we are to meet future needs, but we also need to ensure that the new infrastructure we build to do this protects wildlife.

An essential part of achieving this is assessing the environmental impacts of different strategic options. We have been pushing for greater consideration and coordination between energy NSIPs in Suffolk by coordinating the different projects so the impacts on wildlife can be minimised as far as possible.

Under pressure from local campaigners, National Grid has agreed to review the alternatives to the currently proposed Grid reinforcements and offshore wind farm connections in East Anglia. It is crucial that this review assesses the environmental impacts of the different options on land and at sea to ensure we end up with the best solution for wildlife and people.

Rupert Masefield, Planning and Advocacy Manager

YOUR LOCAL WILDLIFE GROUP CONTACTS

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MAGAZINES

If you would like to help our magazine volunteer delivery team in the future please contact:

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WILD YOUR INBOX

Would you like to hear from us by email? Sign up at bit.ly/SWTemails

YOUR LOCAL WARDEN



Matt Gooch
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WHAT'S ON

Thursday 14 September 7.30pm

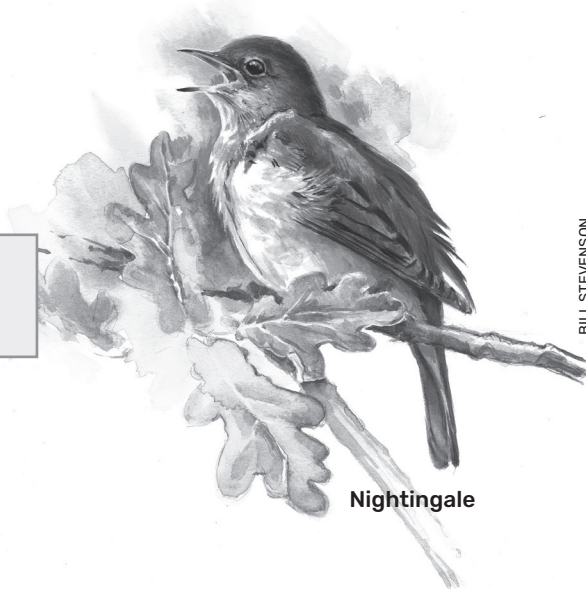
Talk: WHEN BIRDS SING

With Saffron Summerfield.

Southwold Arts Centre, Cumberland Road, Southwold IP18 6JP.

Admission £4, refreshments included

Admission £4, refreshments included.
Donations welcome. For more details visit:
suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events



BILL STEVENSON

Nightingale



Your most local reserves

Carlton Marshes ● Church Farm Marshes ● Darsham Marshes

Dingle Marshes ● Hen Reedbeds ● Reydon Wood



Suffolk Wildlife Trust

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