

# Wild Essex

# july nature news



# Wild Essex Diary

For more info or to book a place on any walk, please email me at <a href="mgibson1959@btinternet.com">mgibson1959@btinternet.com</a> or text 07503240387.

Or you may like to keep in touch via our lively Whatsapp group, just contact me and I will add you

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#### **UP COMING EVENTS**

THURSDAY 17th AUGUST

Evening walk around WIVENHOE PARK (Uni). Meet at 7pm. Looking at the magnificent trees, then sit around the lake watching for bats.

£10 per person



#### MONDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

Evening walk in WRABNESS NATURE RESERVE. From 5pm til dusk. Come and help us find Great Green Bush Crickets and lots more!

£10 per person.

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#### FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER

CHARITY WALK – all proceeds to Springmead Gardens Brightlingsea. Meet at the gardens in the morning, followed by walk around The Lozenge Nature Reserve. Perhaps we'll stop off for a drink somewhere too. Free, but booking essential please.

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Looking ahead we are planning a Wivenhoe Saltmarsh walk, Birds in Mistley, plus a series of Zoom talks for the winter months. More info next time!

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#### WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Insects galore at LOWER LODGE, Wivenhoe

#WildEssexWalks – High Summer in Wivenhoe's Lower Lodge | Chris Gibson Wildlife



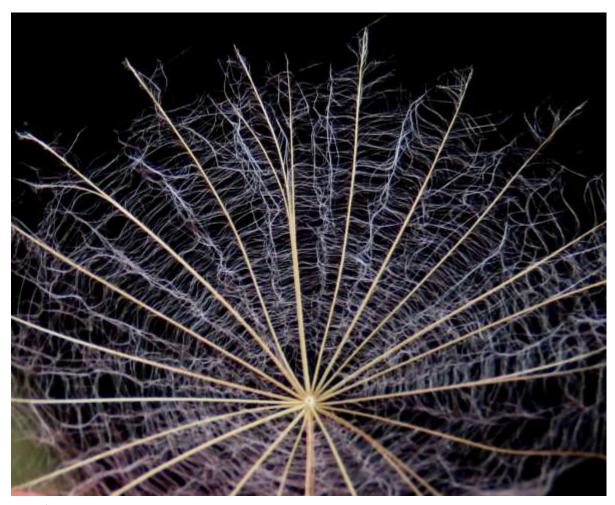
Small Tortoiseshell butterfly

## Welcome....

#### .....to our newsletter for July

Gosh, what a busy month! We've been involved in nature walks at our local churchyard and at Bennison's, the nearby organic farm. In addition, we have organized walks and social events for our group, plus enjoyed moth trapping at Beth Chatto's Garden.

On our travels it's been good to witness a partial, at least, recovery of some insects. The early summer was very disappointing, worrying in fact — what was this due to? Poor wet Spring? Exceedingly hot Summer last year? Build-up of decades of pesticides? We'll never know.



Art in Nature



#### WRABNESS WOODS

A very enjoyable afternoon looking at the delights of this area by the Stour.

#WildEssexWalks - Wrabness and Stour Wood | Chris Gibson Wildlife



#### **BUG HUNT IN ST MARY'S**

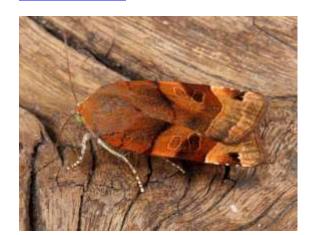
We looked for insects in the wild areas of St Mary's churchyard.



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BETH CHATTO'S Marvellous Moths!

Marvellous moths morning at Beth Chatto Gardens – late July | Chris Gibson Wildlife



#### **NATURE NOTES**

A brief selection this month - sorry if we have not included you this time.







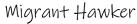
Lovely Lepidoptera!

Barred Yellow and Large Yellow Underwing Moths, Red Admiral Butterfly



Pristine White-legged Damselfly







Female Ruddy Darter

Good to get reports of Hummingbird Hawk-moth plus numerous butterflies in a local wildlife-friendly garden and to hear that many of your photos are from your organic gardens ©

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#### **TALKS**

Chris has a large repertoire of fully illustrated presentations, all suitable for giving to clubs, groups etc, in person or by zoom. <u>Talks | Chris Gibson Wildlife</u> Do get in touch if you would like more details.

#### **BRINGING NATURE TO YOU**

We would be very happy to discuss any ideas you may have for a tailor-made nature experience. Perhaps advice on Rewilding your garden, a moth trapping evening or bespoke walk with a group of friends. General cost £5 per hour per person, usual minimum group of 3 or £15 per hour.

#### **HONEYGUIDE HOLIDAYS**

#### Honeyguide wildlife holidays - Menorca

Chris has been involved in leading holidays and day walks with this company for a number of years. You may be interested in this relaxing holiday 4 – 11 October? (book directly with Honeyguide)







An elegant Bittern in Minsmere

#### AND FINALLY

As most people will know, this year is the 50th anniversary of the great flood when many people along the Essex Coast lost their lives.

Essex County Council commissioned a 'complete record' from Hilda Grieve, the Senior Archivist, and the result was 'The Great Tide' published in 1959. This fascinating and detailed record of the events leading up to that night in January 1953, and the aftermath, has now been reprinted in paperback. If you have the time, this is well worth the read.



#### PLEASE KEEP SENDING US YOUR PHOTOS AND NATURE NOTES!

Special thanks this time to Val Appleyard, Clive Dykes, Dave Green, Sue Minta, Nel Mooy, Emily Poyser-Beezley and Derek Tumber

### CONTACT US

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Beth Chatto's garden looking good....as usual!

If anyone would like the chance to look at the insects and other wildlife of Beth Chatto's Garden with Chris, he is planning a series of 'Meet the Wandering Naturalist' events (weather permitting!) on **4th August**, **18th August and 1st September**, between 1100 and 1300 each day. No need to book, just come to the garden (normal entry price applies) and ask at the Visitor Information Centre where he will be and when, and come along and find him!

The blog from the first such event can be found here:

The Wild Side of Beth Chatto Gardens: a butterfly bonanza! | Chris Gibson Wildlife