

Wild Essex



october nature news

Wild Essex Diary

For more info or to book a place on any walk, please email me at mgibson1959@btinternet.com or text 07503240387.

If WhatsApp is your thing you may like to join our group for lots of interesting photos and lively discussion. Just let me know and I will add you.

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<u>UPCOMING EVENTS – LAST</u> WALKS OF THE YEAR

TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER

BIRDS OF THE STOUR. Come and join us for a couple of hours' stroll on this, our sister river. Looking out for birds that have dropped in for the winter and those that live here all year round (and who could blame them!)

Meet at Manningtree Co-op Car Park. 11.30 – 1.30 (to fit in with the tide), and perhaps drink/bite to eat in a local afterwards.?

£10 per person



SATURDAY 4th NOVEMBER

FUNGI FORAY! at local Wivenhoe University Park 10am – 12noon.



£10 per person.



Whatever is it? Hallowe'en monster? No, a larva of a **Green Lacewing** – they collect debris on their journey of life and attach it to their backs to carry around. Weird huh?

Welcome....

.....to our newsletter for October!

The clocks go back now and much of our wildlife will be hunkering down. But Autumn is a perfect time (my favourite) for walks in the countryside – fungi are coming to a peak and many birds are returning to our shores to spend the winter in our mild climes. Why not join us on one of our walks to enjoy some of this wildlife? Or if you are pining for the summer, tune in to our **free zoom session** on 'Menorcan Wildlife'...a touch of sunshine on a dark Autumn evening! Nov 5th 7pm sharp. See Pg 2 for link.



Fungi! To see more of Chris' photos go to Fungi — the third Kingdom | Chris Gibson Wildlife. And join us on 4th November to discover some of your own!

THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER

FOSSILS, BIRDS AND ANYTHING ELSE!

Come along for a morning and/or afternoon at THE NAZE. Beach combing and fossils 10.30 – 12.30 and/or BIRDS, PLANTS AND OTHER WILDLIFE on top of the cliffs 1 – 3.

Bring a packed lunch or get refreshments from the lovely EWT Visitor Centre.

£10 per person for one session/ £20 for both.



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'ZUNDAY ZOOMS'

We are hosting a series of free zoom talks again this winter – why not tune in on the **first Sunday of each month** for 40 mins from 7pm to be entertained on a nature-related topic.

Programme as follows: * changed to that previously announced

5th Nov The Wildlife of Menorca 3rd Dec WildEssex Review of 2023

7th Jan Parasitic plants

4th Feb The Wild Side of Beth Chatto's

Garden

3rd Mar The Making of a Field Guide

This month - MENORCAN WILDLIFE

A winter warmer, imagine yourself in the sun! Tune in using this link ©

https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87870744399?pwd=7NYIhuEz69GA82xIgDLWPkMMWEDX3K.1

Meeting ID: 878 7074 4399 Passcode: 6gWYrc

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WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Great fun was had on our WILD ESSEX ON TOUR – TO HARLOW!

#WildEssex on Tour: Harlow and the Stort Valley | Chris Gibson Wildlife



NATURE NOTES

Thanks to everyone for your contributions this month.



Stunning shot of an acrobatic Large White Butterfly



'Cooey!' First time we've ever seen a seal on the mud at Wivenhoe, enjoying a bask in the late summer sunshine



A friendly spider for Halloween all the way from Oz



Autumn colours on our local saltmarsh









FUNGI QUIZ!

For a bit of fun why not take this fungi quiz from the London Wildlife Trust. To find out even more about fungi, join us at **the Uni on Sat 4th Nov**, Get in touch to book a place. £10 per person.

Fungi ID quiz - Oct 2023 (typeform.com)

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'THE FIRST FRUITS OF AUTUMN', walk along the Colne Estuary.

#WildEssexWalks – an autumn stroll along the Colne Estuary | Chris Gibson Wildlife



'ZUNDAY ZOOMS'. If you missed our first talk of the season on Galls, but would like to see it, here is the link – available for a week or so.

https://1drv.ms/f/s!ArJb8tGtNUkTkoUih AKRH1HJEBR5IQ?e=YHpgZz

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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.

THIS MONTH CHRIS ADVISED ON ENHANCING A GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE IN A NEARBY VILLAGE

TRANSITION TOWN WIVENHOE

For ideas about how you can help your local community, as well as hopefully the planet, get in touch with transwiv@gmail.com to receive their regular newsletter.

BRIGHTLINGSEA NATURE NETWORK are arranging another of their super days.



Saturday 25th November Brightlingsea Library

Come and see what is wild about Brightlingsea!

- Record this years hedgehog, bird or other sightings on our digital map
- Talk to an ecologist
- Tell the Neighbourhood Plan which areas they should be trying to protect and why
- Free tree saplings suitable for gardens
- Potion making for toddlers and make a tiny wildlife garden for all ages
- Talk to Brightlingsea & Great Bentley Hedgehog Rescues
- See a hedgehog skeleton
- Pick up a free leaflet on gardening for wildlife
- See the new library wildlife garden progress
- Stalls include Brightlingsea Beach School, B.N.A, E.W.T and the W.I.



AND FINALLY.....

WILDESSEX VOUCHERS!! The perfect present for the person that has everything!

Let us know how much you would like to spend and we will send a card to your chosen one with a voucher for £10, £20 or £30, together with a list of upcoming events to choose from. Simples!



PLEASE KEEP SENDING US YOUR PHOTOS AND NATURE NOTES!

Special thanks this time to Val Appleyard, Susie Jenkins and Sue Ward

CONTACT US

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