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**Late Summer Programme 2022**

# Here are details of the MKNHS meetings during June, July, and August 2022. These take place on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

# We also have some events that involve outside organizations. These you have to book so that we know numbers, we have sent you further details of these, and if you have problems please contact MKNHS.membership.

**You can locate a Grid reference on a map by searching Grid reference finder in your browser or Play store or Apple I-store app**

**The start time of each meeting is given against its date. Please arrive 15 minutes before the meetings are due to start, so we can run through the risk assessment as appropriate.**

**Please note that clause 7 of the Society’s constitution reads: “the Society will exercise due care when arranging its meetings and activities for the benefit of members.  Members taking part in any meeting or activity do so at their own risk.”**

# June

**Tuesday 7th June**  **19:00pm Oxley Mead David Gowing**

A rare opportunity to visit the richest meadow in MK with a guided tour from Professor David Gowing from the Open University. Meet at Oxley Park shops, Cushing Drive.

Grid reference SP821349 MK4 4TJ

**Saturday 11th June 10:30am Knocking Hoe Matt Andrews**

Knockinghoe is the only National Nature Reserve in Bedfordshire. Flora and fauna are very special. Nationally rare plants include Burnt-tip orchid, Spotted catsear, Pasque flower, Field fleawort and Moon carrot. Also a good selection of downland birds. Meet outside The View public house at SG5 3JX. Grid reference TL 119303

**Sunday 12th June 10:30am Tear Drop Lakes** **Colin Docketty**

A circular walk round the lakes including a visit to Damselfly City, a small area of reeds in the corner of one of the lakes which always has a good collection of Damselflies including White Legged so you can brush upon your ID skills.

Parking off Childs Way H6 in Davy Avenue , Knowlhill, by the cricket ground.

Grid reference SP843371

**Tuesday 14th June**  **19:00pm Tattenhoe Harry Appleyard**

Harry’s patch is well known for the wealth of bird and insect records that Harry has recorded in recent years. Wildflower meadows, many ponds and hedgerows provide a wealth of interest. Meet at Steinbeck Crescent, Snelshall West. Grid Reference SP827330

**Tuesday 21st June**  **19:00pm Totternhoe Matt Andrews**

First we will be making a short visit to Totternhoe knolls to look at the summer flowers, and birds of the chalk down land. Then we will return to the Cross Keys in time for dusk at 10pm when the Stag Beetles are flying from the shelter of the hedges either side of the road. Parking at the Cross Keys Totternhoe grid reference SP979218.

**July**

**Saturday 2nd July 11am-4pm Howe Park Wood Nature Day**

The annual celebration of wildlife at Howe Park Wood. Volunteers welcome to join Martin and Helen to help at our MKNHS display in the visitor centre.

**Tuesday 5th July 19:00pm Sandhouse Lane Quarry Di Parsons**

A former quarry now owned and managed by The Greensand Trust. There are rich meadows of wild flowers, Butterflies such as Hairstreaks, and an interesting area of tarmac now being colonised by lichens and other wild flowers. Meet at the upper car park at the Flying Fox pub, round the corner from the A5, to share cars. MK17 (HD Grid reference SP933304 ( nature reserve grid reference SP 935298)

**Sunday 10th July 10:30am Lodge Lake** **Colin Docketty**

A visit to this not often visited site to see what the lake and the surrounding area has to offer. Great Crested Grebes breed here. Good for marginal plants.

Parking at the car park off Bradwell Road off Danstead Way H4 SP832385

**Tuesday 12th July 19:00pm Wolverton Fairy Flax Jenny Mercer**

The walking is easy, mostly on metalled paths and crosses just 2 grassy fields towards the Iron Trunk aquaduct. The focus will be on identifying plants of wet places - for example fairy flax, water dock and figwort are locally common on this route. Over 150 plants were identified a decade or more ago on a Society walk led by Roy Maycock supported by Mary Sarre. The riverside walk should be alive with dragonflies and other insects.

Meet at the Holy Trinity Church car park, Old Wolverton. Grid Reference SP803412

Post code MK12 5NH

**Saturday 16th July 21.00pm College Wood Nash Andy Harding**

An annual event in memory of George Higgs and Gordon Redford.

This is a joint event with the Bucks Invertebrate Group, who provide several moth traps. In 2021 in ideal weather we recorded well over 200 moths. (Full list is on the MKNHS website)

A later start than normal to allow for some good mothing time, weather permitting. Fold up chairs, torch, and a flask of something to drink have been helpful in the past. Meet in the roadside car park south of Nash at MK17 0EH grid reference SP 786 327. Extra parking inside the gate will be available on Saturday

**Tuesday 19th July**  **19:00pm Ouzel Valley Park Derek and Judy Taylor**

Riverside walks and grassland with interesting archaeology as well as wildlife interest. Dragonflies and other insects and potentially bats at dusk.

Parking, The Barge Inn has a double car park, adjacent and just south of this is the car park we are using. The Barge is at MK15 0AE grid reference SP873392

**Monday 25th July 10.30 am Tring Museum Linda Murphy**

A behind the scenes tour for 24 members maximum. Booking will be essential. Full details have been sent out.

**August**

**Tuesday 2nd August 20:00pm Howe Park Wood Andy Harding**

Another mothing evening at a site where the Society has recorded moths in the past. Also a chance to see bats at dusk. Meet at the car park off Chaffron Way (H7). Grid reference SP830344 post code MK4 3GG.

 **Sunday, 7th, August 10:30am Walton Lake and Ouzel Colin Docketty**

We will first view the emergent plant Arrowhead (Sagittaria Sagittifolia) at one of its

few locations on the River Ouzel, and then go on a circular walk to see what is around.

Parking at Walton Lake Car Park in Newport road Grid reference SP879369 nearest post code MK6 3AP

 **Tuesday 16th August** **19:00pm Willen Lake North Martine Harvey**

We will walk around the lake and visit the bird hide. Some of the birds to be seen include Gulls, Ducks, Long Tailed Tits, Warblers and possibly a Goldcrest. One of our best local bird-watching sites at a good time for autumn passage.

Most of the walk is on a path, with some bridleway which could be muddy.

 Meet at the Sports Pavilion car park, off Hooper Gate, Willen. SP876410 MK15 9AA

 **Tuesday 23rd August 19:00pm Linford Manor Park Carla Boswell/Ellie Broad**

Historic parklands recently restored by The Parks Trust. Carla & Ellie will show some of the restored features including ponds and stone walls. We will end the night with some bat recording.

Meet at the Arts Centre car park off Parklands, Great Linford. Postcode: MK14 5AU. Grid reference SP851423

 **Tuesday 30th August 19:00pm Elfield Park**  **James Chew**

A brownfield site with limited public access, now the home of Elfield Park Bushcraft Group. Woodland, scrub and species rich ponds. Note the car park will be locked at 19:10. Access via the Bowl entrance off Watling Street. SP854362 Nearest postcode

MK6 1NJ

**NEXT MEETING: 6th September Cruck Barn.**

City Discovery Centre, Alston Drive,

Bradwell Abbey, Milton Keynes, MK13 9AP