

Kemsing Wildlife Group

The Kemsing Wildlife Group meets monthly from October to May to receive presentations from naturalists and enthusiasts on various wildlife subjects. You would be welcome to join us. Admission fee £3, children free. See our website for full details, you can also find us on Facebook. www.kemsingwildlifegroup.weebly.com

2023/24 Programme

7:30pm Friday 13th October 2023

A year in a nature friendly garden – Victoria Golding

Gardening that benefits nature is becoming more and more popular, especially as traditional gardening becomes less viable in a time of climate change. With gardens in the UK occupying 5% of land, people have seen that to garden more sustainably makes a big difference in supporting populations of insects that have become endangered as a result of development and damaging farming practices. The talk will demonstrate some of the simple, but beautiful plants that will link in with the countryside and add to and increase wildlife in your garden.

7:30pm Friday 10th November 2023

I'm a Dormouse, not a mouse

– Kathie Foster

The talk will enlighten you about the secret life of one of our favourite woodland mammals, the hazel dormouse, current attempts to increase their declining numbers and what you can do to help them.



7:30pm Friday 8th December 2023

Keeping swifts in our sky – Martin Garwood



Swifts are with us for just a few months of the year and for many people they are THE bird of high summer as they scream around the rooftops of our towns and villages. But all is not right in their world. With the number arriving here to breed declining every year, they are now "red- listed" as a species of conservation concern. But there are very practical things we can do to help stem the decline and keep them in our Summer skies. In his illustrated talk, Swift enthusiast Martin Garwood, will explore what makes these amazing birds so special, why numbers arriving in the UK are declining and what we can do about it. Martin is a former Trustee of Kent Wildlife Trust, a volunteer with the RSPB, a founder member of the High Weald Swift Conservation (Facebook) Group and, unsurprisingly, passionate about Swifts.

7:30pm Friday 9th February 2024

Reptiles & Amphibians of Great Britain

– Andy Cunnington

The talk covers the thirteen native species of Reptiles & Amphibians. Discover where they live? How they breed? And the survival strategies employed in the face of the challenges they now face. You will find out where and how to observe these beautiful creatures in and around Kemsing and the wider county of Kent. So, hop along for an enlightening evening.



7:30pm Friday 8th March 2024

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly & the Beautiful

– Chris Stewart

Inhabitants of your garden are not plain and boring. One has survived the vacuum of space. There are parasites and fungi and a weed that could keep the world moving. What is lurking outside? What new pests are coming your way? Some are the gardener's friend and a joy to spy but be prepared to be scared! You will not look at your garden in the same way again.

7:30pm Friday 12th April 2024

A walk through the seasons at Bough Beech

– Lynne Flower

Bough Beech reservoir nestles in the Weald of Kent, a haven for wildlife and rich in history. From the first signs of spring with the appearance of pussy willow and the arrival of toads and newts to their breeding ponds we will explore the variety of wildlife. From the early gold of the Marsh Marigolds and the arrival of the first Cuckoo to the emergence of colourful butterflies and dragonflies. Summer culminates in the apple harvest after which we look forward to the snows of winter.



7:30pm Friday 10th May 2024

Chalk Rivers – Mark Gallent

Chalk rivers are a globally rare and valuable environmental habitat. We are fortunate to have such habitats in the UK, including the river Darent. Learn about these unique habitats and the challenges that they face both globally and on the river Darent.

St. Edith Small Hall from 7:30pm until 9:30pm