



# MEET THE SPECIES

*the race is on...*

**Come along and play your part  
in a nationwide wildlife hunt!**



Come along and play your part in a nationwide wildlife hunt. **Meet the Species** is part of Discovering Places, the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad Campaign to inspire the UK to discover their local environment. The project encourages people to get involved in identifying and surveying different species across the country and, as it is 'London 2012', the aim is to record 2012 different species!

**As part of this project, there are many opportunities in Breckland to visit different areas to contribute to the nationwide species hunt and inspire you to discover your local environment.**

*The Meet the Species events are open to all. With experts on hand each event will be a great opportunity to learn something new about your local natural environment. Come along and enjoy exploring nature. Please wear suitable clothing and bring a pack lunch for all day events. Don't forget your binoculars if you have some.*

### **Meet the Birds in the Brecks**

**Thursday 15th March, Thetford, 12pm-2pm**

Join the RSPB and British Trust of Ornithology for a lunchtime stroll down the river in Thetford, spotting for birds and other wildlife.

**Details:** Just turn up, suitable for all and it's free. Meet at Captain Mainwaring Statue, Bridge Street Car park, Thetford.

For more information please contact **charlotte.lowry@rspb.org.uk** or **01842 821787**.

Bring binoculars if you have some.



### **Wildlife Survey Trail: Self Guided**

**Eco Tech Centre, Swaffham,  
26th March to 30th September, weekdays only**

Visit the EcoTech Centre and collect a survey sheet to see what you can find in the wildlife garden and Heritage Orchard. This is a self-guided survey, helping you to get up close to some of the many inhabitants in the organically certified and award-winning grounds.

**Details:** Free of charge. Survey sheets and returnable pack provided.

### **Wildlife Survey Trail: Guided Surveys**

**Thursday 5th April 2012 (Easter Hols) 11am**

**Eco Tech Centre, Swaffham**

Children only, aged 5 to 14 years old. Must be accompanied by an adult (beginners and those with a little more knowledge welcome).

**Thursday 5th April 2012 (Easter Hols) 2pm**

Adults and children age 14 yrs and over (beginners and experienced welcome).

Join us for a guided survey of the EcoTech wildlife friendly garden and our Heritage Orchard. With our guides you will look for bugs and wild plants. Any sightings will be recorded and will help to build a picture of the inhabitants of these rich areas.

**Details:** £1.00 adult, 50p children. All materials will be supplied.

### **Meet the Birds in the Brecks**

**Wednesday 25th April 10am-1pm Lynford Arboretum**

Join the RSPB for a guided wildlife walk at Lynford Arboretum and lakes near Mundford. We'll be looking for amazing birds and other wildlife in the woods and lakes.

**Details:** Just turn up, suitable for all and it's free. Bring a picnic to eat at the end of the walk.

**Meeting point:** Lynford Arboretum- on the A1065 towards Swaffham, turn right to Lynford Hall and the Arboretum is a mile down the road.

For more information please contact **charlotte.lowry@rspb.org.uk** or **01842 821787**. Bring binoculars if you have some.



## Meet the Species Bioblitz around Thetford

Tuesday 24th April 10am-12pm

A wildlife walk getting to know urban wildlife. Prepare to be amazed at the amount of wildlife found in the heart of Thetford.

**Details:** Free. No need to book just turn-up and join in. Approximate distance, 2 miles.

**Meeting point:** Captain Mainwaring Statue, Bridge Street car park, Thetford.

## Meet the Birds in the Brecks

Saturday 12th May 10am-1pm Santon Downham

Join the RSPB for a spring wildlife walk through the forest and along the river looking for birds and other wildlife along the way.

**Details:** Just turn up. Meet at Santon Downham car park at Forestry Commission offices - turn off the Thetford/Brandon Road (B1107) to Santon Downham, follow the signs to Forestry Commission. For more information please contact [charlotte.lowry@rspb.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.lowry@rspb.org.uk) or **01842 821787**.

## Meet the Species Dawn to Dusk in Thetford

Sunday 20th May all day

A series of nature activities taking place throughout the day looking for wildlife. Come along and learn something new.

### Programme for the day:

#### The Early Bird... (Wildlife Walk)

8am-9.30am

Join the British Trust of Ornithology (BTO) Nunnery Lakes Warden, Chris Gregory, and discover some of the amazing wildlife found on this reserve.

**Start point:** Nuns' Bridges car park, Nuns' Bridge Road, Thetford

**Details:** Free. No need to book just turn-up and join in. Approximate distance, 2 miles.

## The Great Thetford Minibeast Hunt (Family Activity)

10.30am-12pm

Take the bug challenge and discover how many different minibeasts you can find in an hour.

**Start point:** Captain Mainwaring Statue, Bridge Street car park, Thetford.

**Details:** Free. No need to book just turn-up and join in.

## Thick Knees, Stone Plovers and Wailing Heath Chickens!

1pm-3.30pm

Take a minibus tour and discover the secret life of one of the Breck's most charismatic animals – the Stone Curlew. Includes a visit to NWT Weeting Heath.

**Location:** Guild Hall, Cage Lane, Thetford, IP24 2DS

**Details:** Free. Booking essential – **01603 598333**.

## A Wild History of Thetford (Wildlife Walk)

5pm-6.30pm

Step back in time on this walk as we explore the natural and unnatural history of Thetford.

**Start point:** Captain Mainwaring Statue, Bridge Street car park, Thetford.

**Details:** Free. No need to book just turn-up and join in. Approximate distance 2 miles.

## Natterer's, Noctules and Pips – Bat Walk

7pm-9pm

Curious? Join us for an evening of exploration as we enter the nocturnal world of bats.

**Start point:** Nuns' Bridges car park, Nuns' Bridge Road, Thetford

**Details:** Free. No need to book just turn-up and join in. Approximate distance, 1 mile. Bring a torch if you have one.



## Wildlife Survey Trail: Guided Surveys

**Eco Tech Centre, Swaffham**  
**Friday 8th June (Half Term Hols) 11am**

Children only, aged 5 to 14 years old. Must be accompanied by an adult (beginners and those with a little more knowledge welcome).

**Friday 8th June 2012 (Half Term Hols) 2pm**

Adults and children age 14 yrs and over (beginners and experienced welcome).

**Details:** See 5th April event.

## Other nature events taking place in Breckland

### Hawk and Owl Trust, Sculthorpe

Lots of nature events over the coming months for people to get involved in see [www.hawkandowl.org](http://www.hawkandowl.org)

### Beginner's Guide to Digital Wildlife Photography

**Monday 26th March, 10am-3pm**

**Norfolk Wildlife Trust – Adult Wildlife Workshops**

Look at the birdie... Jerry Kinsley introduces you to the basics of using an SLR digital camera to photograph wildlife.

**Location:** British Trust of Ornithology (BTO), The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU

**Details:** Free. Booking essential – **01603 598333**.

### Hoe Bird Walk Monthly

**Sunday 18 March, Sunday 15th April, Sunday 20th May 8am.**

Norfolk Wildlife Trust walk to log birdlife and wildlife in the Wensum Valley (come along at 9.15am for second half of the walk).

**Location:** Meet in the lane, grid ref TF 989 173.

**Details:** Free

**Prebook:** **01362 668494**



## Putting Wildlife on the Map

**Tuesday 20th March, 7.45-9.00pm**

Presentation by Norfolk Wildlife Trust Officer Gemma Walker about how you can help Norfolk's wildlife through submitting simple records.

**Location:** Watton Christian Community Centre, 57 High Street, Watton

**Details:** Members £2.00, non-members £3.00

**Prebook:** **01953 498467**

## Felling Alder day

**Tuesday 27th March 9.30 – 4pm**

British Trust of Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) conservation day – all welcome.

**Location:** Swanton Morley Common (Bring a packed lunch)

**Details:** Free but Call Debbie Murray to book: **01603 767300**

Email [norfolk@btcv.org.uk](mailto:norfolk@btcv.org.uk)

## Beginner's Guide to Bumblebee Identification

**Saturday 31st March, 10am-2pm**

**Norfolk Wildlife Trust – Adult Wildlife Workshops**

This workshop will introduce you to the main bumblebee species found in Norfolk and will show you how to identify them.

**Location:** The Bell Inn, King Street, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2AZ

**Details:** Free. Booking essential - **01603 598333**

## Walk with the Warden – Exploring NWT Weeting Heath

**Tuesday 10th April, 10am-12pm**

Join the warden and discover the wildlife of Norfolk Wildlife Trust Weeting Heath and learn how the site is managed.

**Location:** Norfolk Wildlife Trust Weeting Heath Visitor Centre, off the B1106, Weeting to Brandon Road (TF 757881)

**Details:** Free. Just turn-up and join in. Approximate distance 1 mile.



## Blankets of Bluebells Walk

**Saturday 14th April- Sunday 15th April, 11am-3pm**

**Location:** Norfolk Wildlife Trust Foxley Wood.

**Details:** Free.



## Early Birds and Bluebells

**Sunday 22nd April, 6am-8am**

Get up with the Lark and join Norfolk Wildlife Trust Foxley Wood to listen to the inspiring sounds of nature.

**Location:** Norfolk Wildlife Trust Foxley Wood.

**Details:** £4 adults, £2 children.

## Foxley Wood

**Sunday 22nd April, Foxley Wood 6am-8am**

Get up with the Lark and join us at Norfolk Wildlife Trust Foxley Wood to listen to the inspiring sounds of nature. You will take a guided walk and learn to identify the many songsters in this ancient woodland. It will be worth the early start as you find yourself surrounded by bluebells and birdsong.

**Details:** Meet in the car park, NR20 4QR (Map ref. TG 049229.)

## In Search of Pingos Breck Discovery Day

**Tuesday 1st May, 10am-4pm**

Join Norfolk Wildlife Trust as we walk the Great Eastern Pingo Trail. Learn about Stow Bedon.

**Details:** Free. Booking essential **01603 598333**. Approximate distance 8 miles.

## How to Manage to Meadows

**Monday 11th June, 10am-4pm**

**Norfolk Wildlife Trust) Adult Wildlife Workshops**

This full-day workshop is a basic introduction on how to manage meadows for wildlife.

**Location:** British Trust of Ornithology (BTO), The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU

**Details:** Free. Booking essential – **01603 598333**.



## Walk with the Warden – Exploring Norfolk Wildlife Trust Thompson Common

**Tuesday 12th June, 10am-12pm**

**Norfolk Wildlife Trust – Wildlife Walk**

Join the warden and discover the wildlife of Norfolk Wildlife Trust Thompson Common and learn how the site is managed.

**Start Point:** Norfolk Wildlife Trust Thompson Common Car Park, off the A1075, by Stow Bedon.

**Details:** Free. No need to book just turn-up and join in. Approximate distance 2 miles.



## Walk at East Wretham Nature Reserve

**Wednesday 13th June 6.30pm – 8.00pm**

**Location:** East Wretham Heath car park off A1075

**Details:** Members/Non Members £2.00 donation to NWT funds.

## Our Meadowland Wildlife Thompson Common

**Sunday 17th June, 10am-12pm**

Explore and learn all about grassland management around pingos. No previous experience necessary at this event. Suitable for all ages.

**Location:** Norfolk Wildlife Trust Thompson Common, meet at Stow Bedon car park off the A1075.

**Cost:** Free.



## Other places to visit in Breckland to look for wildlife:



- Weeting Heath, Weeting
- East Wretham Heath, East Wretham
- Foxley Wood, Foxley
- Hoe Rough, Hoe
- Honey Pot Wood, East Dereham
- Lolly Moor, East Dereham
- Narborough Railway Line, Narborough Village
- New Buckenham Common
- Scarning Fen
- Wayland Wood
- Gooderstone Water Gardens



## Useful Websites

[www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk)  
[www.opalexplorenature.org](http://www.opalexplorenature.org)  
[www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)  
[www.ecotech.org.uk](http://www.ecotech.org.uk)  
[www.hawkandowl.org](http://www.hawkandowl.org)  
[www.fotf.org.uk](http://www.fotf.org.uk)  
[www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)  
[www2.btcv.org.uk](http://www2.btcv.org.uk)  
[www.enjoythebroads.com/events-search](http://www.enjoythebroads.com/events-search)  
[www.transportdirect.info](http://www.transportdirect.info)



## Contacts

For more information visit [www.breckland.gov.uk](http://www.breckland.gov.uk) or call **01362 656870**  
Norfolk Wildlife Trust: **01603 598333**  
Eco Tech: **01760 726100**  
RSPB: **01842 821787**



*a better place, a brighter future*

**Breckland**  
COUNCIL

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