



## **Programme Coordinator's Report for AGM 2024**

### **Ann Miles FRPS**

The Nature Group has organised many events since the last AGM with a series of Zoom lectures, two Distinction events and a wide variety of Field Trips. Our biggest change has been the availability since August 2023 of a dedicated website to display our events quickly and attractively with the facility for Members to upload their own images to Galleries and a Lightbox for comments after the event. All events are still accessible from the main RPS Nature Group home page but the work load for displaying, monitoring and reporting on Field Trips is a fraction of the previous method.

The Zoom talks by Ian Wilson, Mick Durham, Andrew McCarthy, Chris Gomersall and David Tipling were excellent and many thanks to those who have helped provide this service to Members. If you missed any of these, recordings of most of these can be found from the Nature Group home page under Event Recordings. As predicted, the estimated cost of running a face-to-face Advisory Session was too high, so both our Advisory Sessions were by Zoom, held in August and January and were both fully subscribed.

We have run a great number of Field Trips since the last AGM (see below) and have many more planned. Thanks to Duncan Locke, Peter Ward, Bruce Kendrick, David O'Neill, Ken Rasmussen, Nick Bowman and Steve Parrish who are helping to run events. Several of these are offered as 2-day events with Members booking their own choice of accommodation. Number of participants varied with a maximum of 15 to a couple where I braved very bad weather alone!! Hopefully those attending have enjoyed the events, got the occasional pleasing image and made new friends. Galleries and News Items can be found for most of the trips that we organise on the our website.

<https://www.rpsnature.org.uk/>

We are still looking for Volunteers to help organise events so we can spread the locations out over more of the country especially in the Southern, Northern and Scottish areas, so it would be great if more Members were willing to share their favourite locations – you do not have to be an expert in any field just have an enthusiasm for a locality and its wildlife.

We would also love to hear your suggestions for events – we are adding Workshops to our list for this year – there will be a charge for these as we have to cover overheads, but we will keep these well below commercial prices as a benefit of your membership of the RPS Nature Group.

Ann Miles FRPS  
19th March 2024

## List of Events April 2023 – April 2024

### On-line Advisory Days:

- Saturday 19th August 2023 Chaired Mick Durham  
Saturday 13th January 2024 Chaired Andrew McCarthy

### On-line Talks 2023:

- Saturday 23rd September Sharpening and Noise Reduction – The Sequel by Ian Wilson  
Saturday 28th October Working Towards a Fellowship – What Makes an Image Distinctive by Mick Durham  
Saturday 2nd December Photographing Bats in Flight by Andrew McCarthy  
Saturday 25th November From Macro to Micro: The Art of Fungi Photography by Alex Pollock (Organised by the Digital Imaging Group)

### On-line Talks 2024:

- Saturday 27th January Still Photographing Wild Birds by Chris Gomersall  
Saturday 17th February Photographing Invertebrates by Andrew McCarthy  
Saturday 23rd March My Wood by David Tipling

### Field Trips 2023:

- Sunday 16th April Potteric Carr, Yorkshire – Peter Ward  
Thursday 27th April Paxton Pits, Cambridgeshire – Ann Miles  
Wednesday 3rd May Burton Mere Wetlands, Cheshire – Bruce Kendrick  
Sunday 7th May Attenborough Nature Reserve, Notts. – Peter Ward  
Wednesday 10th May Cribbs Meadow and Barnack Hills, Leicestershire – Ken Rasmussen  
Friday 19th May Bonsai Bank and Denge Wood, Kent – Duncan Locke  
Sunday 21st May Rutland Water Nature Reserve, Leics. – Peter Ward  
Wednesday 24th May Martin Down, Hampshire – Duncan Locke  
Wednesday 31st May Whixall Moss NNR, Shropshire – Duncan Locke  
Wednesday 7th June Chartley Moss NNR, Staffs. – Alan Hartley  
Friday 9th June RSPB Lakenheath Fen, Suffolk – Ann Miles  
Sunday 25th June Buxton Heath, Norfolk – Ann Miles  
Monday 26th June Winterton Dunes, Norfolk – Ann Miles  
Thursday 6th July Fermyn Woods, Northants. – Ken Rasmussen  
Saturday 8th July – North Norfolk Long Weekend – Nick Bowman  
Monday 10th July  
Wednesday 12th July Prestbury Hill, Gloucestershire – Duncan Locke.  
Sunday 23rd July Sharpenhoe Clappers, Bedfordshire – Ann Miles  
Monday 24th July RSPB Sandy, Bedfordshire – Ann Miles  
Friday 4th August Welney Wetlands Centre, Norfolk – Ann Miles

Wednesday 9th August	Grafton Wood, Worcestershire – Duncan Locke
Sunday 27th August	Summer Leys Nat. Reserve, Northants. – Ann Miles
Thursday 7th September	RSPB Lakenheath Fen, Suffolk – Ann Miles
Tuesday 26th September	RSPB Otmoor, Oxfordshire – Ann Miles
Sunday 15th October	Brandon Country Park, Suffolk – Ann Miles
Monday 23rd October	Bradgate Park, Leicestershire – Peter Ward
Thursday 26th October	Buckholt Wood, Gloucestershire – Duncan Locke
Wednesday 1st November	RSPB Sandy, Bedfordshire for Fungi etc. – Ann Miles
Saturday 18th November	Hunstanton Beach, Norfolk – Ann Miles
Sunday 19th November	RSPB Titchwell Marsh, Norfolk – Nick Bowman
Wednesday 22nd November	RSPB Ham Wall, Somerset – Duncan Locke
Saturday 9th December	Welney Wetlands Centre, Norfolk – Ann Miles
Sunday 10th December	Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire – Ann Miles

### **Field Trips 2024:**

Sunday 11th and Monday 12th February	Dee Estuary, Cheshire. High Tide Spectacular for Waders and Raptors – Bruce Kendrick
Saturday 2nd March	RSPB Blacktoft Sands, East Yorkshire – Ann Miles + Steve Parrish
Sunday 3rd March	Far Ings NNR, Lincs. – Ann Miles + Steve Parrish
Tuesday 12th March	Slimbridge WWT, Gloucestershire – David O’Neill
Saturday 16th March	Verulamium Park, St Albans Herts. – Ann Miles
Friday 22nd and Sunday 24th March	Hares on Havergate Island, Suffolk – David O’Neill
Saturday 6th April	Photographing Spring Flowers, Cambs. – Ann Miles