

April to September 2014

# WIGHT SUMMER WALKS



ACTIVITIES  
FOR  
EVERYONE!

Explore the Island's  
countryside and coast with  
local experts as your guides

In this programme of outdoor events and guided activities for all ages, local experts share their knowledge and special understanding of Island wildlife, conservation, landscape, history and rural economy.

It's a chance to explore the Island's unique countryside and coast during friendly outings in the company of fellow walkers. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust has brought this programme together and is grateful to all this season's contributors.

### **Before setting off**

For many activities, there's no need to book - just turn up on the day at the stated time. Activities which require a reservation or confirmation beforehand are indicated. Please note that the event end time given is only approximate. Where there is a charge for an event, this is stated; otherwise the event is free.

Footpaths and bridleways may be muddy in places, so always be prepared. Good strong shoes or boots, and possibly wellies and a

waterproof would be sensible. Organisers have indicated, as far as possible, those events that are strenuous or may pose difficulties.

No walk or activity in the programme will be cancelled before it's due to start. Whatever the weather, the leader will be at the start of the walk, but may decide to vary the route or, in extreme weather, may cancel there and then.

Please take your litter home with you. Dogs, where permitted, must be on a lead. Please avoid causing obstructions or damage to verges if you travel by car to the starting point and park considerately.

## Thank you and enjoy your walk

*Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in compiling this information, no responsibility can be accepted for any change that may subsequently occur. Those attending any of the events in this programme do so at their own risk.*

*If you have any queries regarding this booklet, please phone (01983) 760016.*

# DISCOVER THE ISLAND THE EASY WAY...

# APRIL

## BRIDDLESFORD MOTHS

Hunt for day-flying moths. Event includes a trip to the pub for supper (optional and cost not included) then reconvene at 7pm to start setting up the moth trap. Event will finish at around 11pm. Booking essential.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 5 April **Time** 2pm **Meet** Details on booking **Cost** £5  
**Leader** James Halsey, IW Butterfly and Moth Group.  
Visit [www.ptes.org/events](http://www.ptes.org/events) or call 020 7498 4533 to book.

## WIGHT LORE: THE HAMSTEAD WALK

Explore the out-of-the-way delights of Cranmore and Hamstead, hunt the big cat, discover the site of the Island's first railway and see what remains of John Nash's country estate on a tranquil stroll. Back in time for a pub lunch!

**Day** Sunday **Date** 13 April **Time** 10.30am to 1pm **Distance** 5.5 miles  
**Meet** Public car park/bus stop at Horse and Groom, Ningwood  
**Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle  
01983 615636

## WETLAND RESTORATION

A walk around the Wildlife Trust's Sandown Meadows Nature Reserve to look at the site's habitats, wildlife and restoration works. Dogs on leads welcome. Booking essential.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 26 April **Time** 10.30am **Meet** Entrance to Sandown to Newport cycleway, Perowne Way, Sandown GR 594 849 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## SHORESEARCH SURVEY: RYDE

Join the survey to record animals and plants living in the intertidal zone of Ryde's diverse sand and gravel beach. No experience necessary. Booking advisable.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 30 April **Distance** A short walk is required to the survey start point **Meet** West side of Ryde Pier GR 592 929 **Cost** Free  
**Leader** Abbi Scott, Wildlife Trust 01489 774439 [Abbi.Scott@hiwwt.org.uk](mailto:Abbi.Scott@hiwwt.org.uk)

*Solent crab, washed up on the beach*

# MAY

## HEDGEROW HARVEST WALK: VENTNOR

Discover more about the heritage of hedgerow foraging and wild foods. Part of the Tree Council's Hedgerow Harvest History Project.

**Day** Sunday **Date** 4 May **Time** 3pm to 5pm **Meet** On the path just inside Ventnor Cemetery, Newport Road, Ventnor GR 556 777 **Cost** Free  
**Leader** Rowan Adams, Natural Wight and the Tree Council

## WALKS FROM RAILS: BY RAIL TO THE RACES

A cross-country ramble to Asheys and along the route of the long-abandoned mineral branch line which once served the former racecourse. Return via Sea Mark and Downs. Some strenuous climbing. Bring a picnic.

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 6 May **Time** 10.30am to 3.30pm **Distance** 7 miles  
**Meet** Ryde St John's Road railway station **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636



*Yarmouth Mill*

## ASHEY AMBLE

Enjoy wonderful views of the surrounding landscape on this guided walk over chalk grassland and the Wildlife Trust's woodland reserve of Eaglehead and Bloodstone copses. Stout footwear required, several stiles and uphill walking.

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 6 May **Time** 11am **Meet** Large lay-by at the foot of Ashley Down GR 575 874 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Jamie Marsh, Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## HEATHLAND HAVEN

A walk through the countryside at Cranmore to look at local wildlife such as nightingales and butterflies, including the Wildlife Trust's nature reserve at Ningwood Common.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 7 May **Time** 10.30am **Meet** Ningwood Recycling Centre GR 401 892 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Gareth Shelley, Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## WALKS FROM RAILS: THE SOLENT TUNNEL

An undemanding walk following the route of the former railway between Yarmouth and Freshwater, passing the projected junction for the Victorian Solent Tunnel scheme. Return via west bank of Yar.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 7 May **Time** 2pm to 5pm **Distance** 4.5 miles  
**Meet** Yarmouth (old) railway station PO41 0QT **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## WALKS FROM RAILS: LAKE COMMON

An undemanding cross-country ramble from Sandown to Shanklin via Lake Common, Blackpan and Lower Hyde. Returning from Shanklin to Sandown by train.

**Day** Thursday **Date** 8 May **Time** 2pm to 4pm **Distance** 3.5 miles  
**Meet** Sandown railway station **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## SPRING ON THE DOWNS

A walk around the Wildlife Trust's chalk grassland reserve at Arreton Down to discover the wildlife, landscape and history of this fascinating area. Sorry, no dogs.

**Day** Thursday **Date** 8 May **Time** 7pm **Meet** Community car park in Arreton village, next to the White Lion public house GR 533 867 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Jamie Marsh, Wildlife Trust 01983 760018



*Matthew Chatfield leading 'Tree ID for absolute neophytes' walk*

## WONDERFUL WETLANDS

A walk around the Wildlife Trust's nature reserve at Sandown Meadows to find out more about the wildlife of this wonderful wetland habitat.

**Day** Friday **Date** 9 May **Time** 10.30am **Meet** Entrance to Sandown to Newport cycleway, Perowne Way, Sandown GR 594 849 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Gareth Shelley, Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## TREE ID FOR ABSOLUTE NEOPHYTES

A gentle stroll around scenic coastal parkland looking at a selection of native British trees and learning some quick tips on identifying them. Aimed especially at non-experts.

**Day** Friday **Date** 9 May **Time** 2pm **Duration** 1.5 hours/1.5 miles  
**Meet** Appley Park, old golf hut by the car park GR 606 923 **Cost** Free  
**Leader** Matthew Chatfield 01983 823893

## WALKS FROM RAILS: A TRAIL OF TWO JUNCTIONS

A delightful rural ramble in central Wight linking the former rail junctions of Newport and Merstone – change for Ventnor West - via the old railway trackbed and the adjacent countryside. Bring a picnic.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 10 May **Time** 10.30am to 1.30pm **Distance** 8 miles  
**Meet** Railway Medina Tavern, Sea Street, Newport **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636



*Cubs enjoying geocaching at Appley Park*

## INTRODUCTION TO GEOCACHING

Find out about the game of geocaching from local experts who have teamed up with Garmin, a leader in GPS technology. A special introductory walk, with training followed by a treasure hunt in Appley's beautiful coastal parkland. All equipment provided. Booking essential.

**Day** Sunday **Date** 11 May **Time** 2pm **Duration** 1.5 hours/1.5 miles  
**Meet** Appley Park, old golf hut by the car park GR 606 923 **Cost** Free  
**Leader** IW Geocaching Project 01983 616771

## WALKS FROM RAILS: TO THE MANOR BORNE!

A beautiful circular walk in idyllic rural Wight linking Newport with Swainston Manor via a section of the old railway tracked through Upper Watchingwell – station for the manor. Bring a picnic.

**Day** Monday **Date** 12 May **Time** 10.30am to 3.30pm **Distance** 8.5 miles  
**Meet** Hunnyhill, Newport - opposite Halfords **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## KNIGHT-ON THE DOWNS

A walk across Knighton Down to discover its history, wildlife and landscape. Ghost stories, butterflies and plants with rude names are all found here! Sorry, no dogs.

**Day** Monday **Date** 12 May **Time** 10.30am **Meet** Large lay-by at the foot of Ashley Down GR 575 874 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Jamie Marsh, Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## OVER THE UNDERCLIFF

A circular walk to look at the wildlife and landscape of the St Lawrence Undercliff, including nature reserves at Pelham Woods (Wight Nature Fund) and St Lawrence Field (Wildlife Trust). Sorry, no dogs.

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 13 May **Time** 2pm **Meet** Opposite St Lawrence village hall GR 540 768 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Richard Grogan, Wildlife Trust 01983 760016

## HABITATS FOR HEROES

A walk through the Reserve Forces and Cadet Association property at Jersey Camp, Newtown, to explore the orchid-rich meadows and flower-rich woodlands of the eastern Newtown Estuary. This is a rare opportunity to glimpse the conservation work done by the Conservation Group on the Isle of Wight guided by expert staff and volunteers.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 14 May **Time** 10am for 10.30am start  
**Meet** entrance to Jersey Camp; you will be guided to parking from the barrier GR 445 907 **Cost** Donation to Jersey Camp Conservation Fund welcome  
**Leader** David Maidment 01983 523503

## BIG BOULDNOR TODDLE

An adventurous story walk for under-fives through Bouldnor Forest with the Wildlife Trust's education staff. Wellies required. Not suitable for buggies. All children must be accompanied by an adult; maximum three children per adult. Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 14 May **Time** 10.30am **Meet** Bouldnor Forest Centre (PO41 OAB) - follow track from Yarmouth Road to forest parking site GR 378 896 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760016

## BOULDNOR BATTERY

A walk through Bouldnor Forest to discover the sights and sounds of nighttime wildlife on this Wildlife Trust nature reserve and Forestry Commission plantation. Wear old clothes and wellies and expect to get muddy! Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 14 May **Time** 7pm **Meet** Bouldnor Forest Centre (PO41 OAB) - follow track from Yarmouth Road to forest parking site GR 378 896 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Gareth Shelley, Wildlife Trust 01983 760016

## WALKS FROM RAILS: COASTAL RYDE

A gentle open access morning stroll on the 'flat' to Seaview and back. Follows the historically rich coastline and returns via a series of fascinating route diversions. Suitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs etc.

**Day** Thursday **Date** 15 May **Time** 10am to 1pm **Distance** 4.5 miles  
**Meet** Ryde Esplanade railway station **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## a SECRET FLORA

A walk from Havenstreet to a secluded botanical jewel including ancient woodland and flower-rich meadows. Includes spectacular display of orchids. Sorry, no dogs. Places limited so booking essential.

**Day** Thursday **Date** 15 May **Time** 10.30am and 2pm  
**Meet** Information at time of booking **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Richard Grogan, Wildlife Trust 01983 760016

## a SECRET GARDEN

A walk through riverside woodlands and flower-rich meadows, looking at the wildlife and management of this private and secluded 'garden'. Sorry, no dogs. Places limited so booking essential.

**Day** Friday **Date** 16 May **Time** 10.30am and 2pm  
**Meet** Information at time of booking **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Richard Grogan Wildlife Trust 01983 760016

## RIVERFEST

The annual Riverfest is a celebration of the heritage, community, business and wildlife associated with the historic River Medina. A fun, family event with activities, entertainment and local food.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 17 May **Time** 11am to 3pm **Meet** Newport Quay GR 502 895 **Cost** Free **Leader** Footprint Trust 01983 822282

## WALKS FROM RAILS: RECLAMATION

A walk through the history of Brading Haven's reclamation from the sea, following the route of the old Bembridge branch railway and returning via Bembridge Windmill and the mysterious Centurion's Cope. Café lunch stop or bring picnic.

**Day** Sunday **Date** 18 May **Time** 10.30am to 4.30pm **Distance** 5.5 miles  
**Meet** Brading railway station **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## ISLE OF WIGHT BIOBLITZ

Come to Martin's Wood, Newchurch and join experts and amateurs as we look for as many species of wildlife as we can - including birds, bugs and small mammals. Fun for all the family!

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 27 May **Time** 10am to 4pm **Meet** Newchurch car park opposite primary school off School Lane GR 563 855 **Cost** Free **Leader** IW AONB 01983 823855

## BEE SPOTTING AND BALSAM PULLING

As part of the Isle of Wight Bioblitz (*above*), why not take a gentle circular walk through Martin's Wood and down to the River Yar to see the problems caused by Himalayan balsam. Help spot the plant and pull it up as we go along. Sturdy footwear and long trousers/sleeves recommended. Bring gardening gloves if you want to help pull balsam.

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 27 May **Time** 11.30am to 1.30pm **Meet** Newchurch car park opposite primary school off School Lane GR 563 855 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Nicola Wheeler, Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## CREATURES FROM THE DEEP

A family event to find out, through games and pond dipping, about the creatures living in the ponds at Bouldnor Forest. Wear old clothes and don't forget your wellies. Recommended for ages 5 to 10. Children must be accompanied by an adult; maximum three children per adult. Booking essential.

**Day** Friday **Date** 30 May **Time** 10.30am **Meet** Bouldnor Forest Centre (PO41 0AB) - follow track from Yarmouth Road to forest parking site GR 378 896 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

A fun, family event with activities, entertainment and local food!

**Riverfest**  
ISLE OF WIGHT

Saturday 17 May  
11am to 3pm  
Newport Quay

A celebration of the heritage, community, business and wildlife associated with the historic River Medina.



Riverfest is brought to you by The Footprint Trust. [www.footprint-trust.co.uk](http://www.footprint-trust.co.uk)

The co-operative foodstore



**Hampshire &  
Isle of Wight**

**Join the Hampshire and Isle of  
Wight Wildlife Trust in celebrating  
the Island's wonderful wildlife.**

*Details found  
throughout this  
programme.*

# JUNE

## **MOTHS AT NINGWOOD COMMON**

A walk to the Ningwood Common reserve to look at local wildlife with an emphasis on moths. Overnight moth traps will have been set so hopefully there will be a good variety for you to see. Weather dependant. Sorry, no dogs. Limited numbers, so booking essential.

**Day Saturday Date** 7 June **Time** 7am **Meet** Ningwood recycling centre GR 401 892 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## **HEDGEROW HARVEST WALK: OAKFIELD**

Discover more about the heritage of hedgerow foraging and wild foods. Part of the Tree Council's Hedgerow Harvest History Project.

**Day Sunday Date** 8 June **Time** 3pm to 5pm **Meet** Ark, Oakfield High Street, Ryde GR 594 915 **Cost** Free **Leader** Rowan Adams, Natural Wight and the Tree Council

## **SHORESEARCH SURVEY: FRESHWATER**

Survey to record the animals and plants living in the intertidal zone of Freshwater's interesting rocky shore. No experience necessary. Booking advisable.

**Day Saturday Date** 14 June **Meet** Freshwater Bay car park GR 346 857 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Abbi Scott, Wildlife Trust 01489 774439 Abbi.Scott@hiwwt.org.uk

## **WIGHT LORE: THE NEEDLES WALK**

Glorious high-level walk to the Island's western-most point via reminders of Tennyson, signal beacons, rocket testing, the military past and the Bronze Age. Some strenuous climbing. Café lunch stop or bring a picnic.

**Day Saturday Date** 14 June **Time** 10.30am to 3pm **Distance** 5.5 miles **Meet** Totland War Memorial, Broadway **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## **HEDGEROW HARVEST WALK: CARISBROOKE**

Discover more about the heritage of hedgerow foraging and wild foods. Part of the Tree Council's Hedgerow Harvest History Project.

**Day Sunday Date** 15 June **Time** 3pm to 5pm **Meet** Carisbrooke car park GR 485 881 **Cost** Free **Leader** Rowan Adams, Natural Wight and the Tree Council



*Cowslips at West High Down, overlooking Alum Bay*



Common blue butterfly at Arreton Down

# JULY

## WIGHT LORE: THE THORNESS WALK

A circular afternoon stroll from Cowes to Thorness via Gurnard and the Island's north coast, taking in remains of the secret wartime cross-Solent SOLO pipeline.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 2 July **Time** 2pm to 5.30pm **Distance** 6 miles  
**Meet** By Royal Yacht Squadron, Cowes Parade **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## BRIDDLESFORD BUTTERFLY WALK

Two hour walk through the woods and fields to look for Briddlesford's butterfly fauna. Booking essential.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 5 July **Time** 11am **Meet** Details on booking **Cost** £3  
**Leader** Andrew Brookes, Butterfly Conservation volunteer.  
Visit [www.ptes.org/events](http://www.ptes.org/events) or call 020 7498 4533 to book.

## WIGHT LORE: SHANKLIN WOODLAND WALK

Annual morning ramble through developing ancient woodland link west of Shanklin. Lots of history. Some strenuous climbing, but what goes up..!

**Day** Saturday **Date** 12 July **Time** 10.30am to 1pm **Distance** 3.5 miles  
**Meet** Footpath access stile, Westhill Road, Shanklin **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## SHORESEARCH SURVEY: COLWELL

Join the survey to record the animals and plants living in the intertidal zone of Colwell's interesting rocky shore. No experience necessary. Booking advisable.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 12 July **Meet** Colwell Bay car park (charges apply) GR 327 877 **Cost** Free **Leader** Abbi Scott, Wildlife Trust 01489 774439  
Abbi.Scott@hiwwt.org.uk

## BUTTERFLIES OF ARRETON DOWN

A guided walk across Arreton Down looking at species-rich chalk grassland and butterfly and invertebrate species that can be found there.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 19 July **Time** 2pm **Meet** Community car park in Arreton village, next to the White Lion public house GR 534 867 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## BUTTERFLY BALL FAMILY EVENT

A family walk with games and activities for children, exploring the minibeasts that make their home on Arreton Down, particularly colourful butterflies. Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Friday **Date** 25 July **Time** 1pm to 3pm **Meet** Community car park in Arreton village, next to the White Lion public house GR 534 867 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome **Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018



Redshank at Springvale





Campfire cooking at Wildplay Day

## WILDPLAY DAY (UNDER EIGHTS)

Adventurous fun for little ones, exploring and enjoying Bouldnor Forest, with opportunities for den building, minibeast hunting, clay modelling and much more. Wear old clothes (keeping arms and legs covered) and wellies. Insect repellent advised. Healthy snack provided. All children must be accompanied by an adult; maximum three children per adult. Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 29 July **Time** 10.30am to 12.30pm  
**Meet** Bouldnor Forest Centre (PO41 OAB) - follow track from Yarmouth Road to forest parking site GR 378 896 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

## WILDPLAY DAY (OVER EIGHTS)

Adventurous fun for older children, with opportunities for shelter building, campfire cooking, woodland crafts and much more. Bring a packed lunch, drinks and snacks provided. Wear old clothes (keeping arms and legs covered), wellies, a sun hat, sun cream and insect repellent. Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Wednesday **Date** 30 July **Time** 10.30am to 2.30pm  
**Meet** Bouldnor Forest Centre (PO41 OAB) - follow track from Yarmouth Road to forest parking site GR 378 896 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

# AUGUST

## WIGHT LORE: THE ST LAWRENCE WALK

Enjoy the contrasts and superb views on this historically-interesting circular route along the rugged coast path and up and down Weck Down via tiny St Lawrence Church. Some strenuous climbing. Bring a picnic.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 9 August **Time** 10.30am to 2pm **Distance** 5 miles  
**Meet** Ventnor Botanic Garden car park **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome  
**Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## ROCKPOOL RUMMAGE

The Wildlife Trust's annual Marine Week event, raising awareness of the importance of living seas. Discover the fascinating array of wildlife inhabiting the Island's rocky shore at Bembridge Ledges. Bring a net and bucket if you have them, drinking water, a hat and sunscreen. All children must be accompanied by an adult; maximum three children per adult. Sorry, no dogs.

**Day** Tuesday **Date** 19 August **Time** 12noon to 2pm **Meet** Lane End, Bembridge car park (charges apply) GR 658 880 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

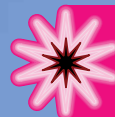
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*Making a clay face in the wood*

## FORT VICTORIA FORAY

This popular event, celebrating the Island's coast, countryside and wildlife, has something to offer all the family, with environmental games and activities, stories, crafts, opportunities to explore the shore, take part in Forest School and lots more.

**Day** Thursday **Date** 21 August **Time** 10.30am to 4pm **Meet** Fort Victoria Country Park. Free parking at Fort Victoria Country Park with park and ride facility available **Cost** Free **Leader** This is a partnership event co-ordinated by Fort Victoria Country Park

## 'WILDTHING' FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY

Education staff from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Fort Victoria Country Park and the National Trust will be joining forces to deliver a range of environmental games and activities for all the family to enjoy, exploring the woodland, grassland and coast at Fort Victoria Country Park near Yarmouth. Activities will be aimed at 5 to 10 year olds and there will be information on how to 're-wild your child' and how to access activities and outdoor learning opportunities for families and schools at the country park and local nature reserves. Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Thursday **Date** 28 August **Time** 2pm to 5pm  
**Meet** Fort Victoria Country Park **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018

# SEPTEMBER

## WIGHT LORE: THE NEWTOWN WALK

Follow the trail of the Island's Pied Piper, re-live the dramatic demise of Francheville, visit the tiniest town hall and enjoy the present-day tranquillity of Newtown on an undemanding stroll.

**Day** Saturday **Date** 13 September **Time** 10am to 12.30pm **Distance** 4.5 miles **Meet** Public car park near New Inn, Shalfleet **Cost** Donation to Lucie Blackman Trust welcome **Leader** Adrian Searle 01983 615636

## FAMILY NATURE NIGHT

A family event to discover the nocturnal inhabitants of Bouldnor Forest Nature Reserve, with opportunities to detect bats, dissect owl pellets and meet a mouse! Dress warmly, wear wellies and bring a torch. (Top tip: come in your pyjamas and you can go straight to bed when you get home!) Insect repellent recommended. Sorry, no dogs. Booking essential.

**Day** Friday **Date** 19 September **Time** 7pm **Meet** Bouldnor Forest Centre (PO41 0AB) - follow track from Yarmouth Road to forest parking site GR 378 896 **Cost** Donation to Wildlife Trust welcome  
**Leader** Wildlife Trust 01983 760018



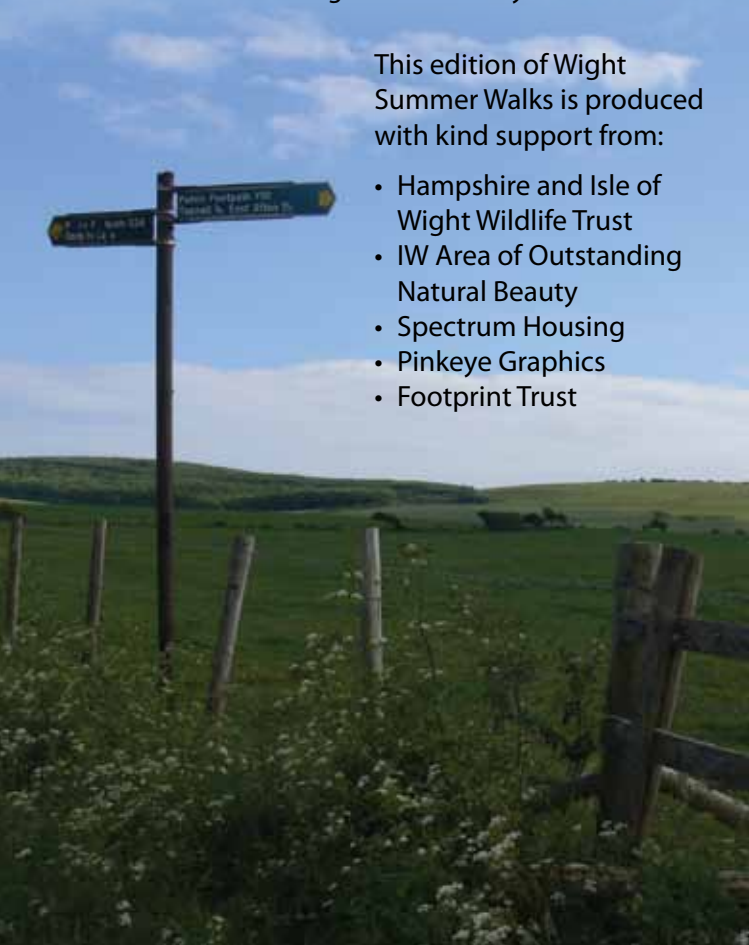
*Newtown saltmarsh at low tide*

# GET OUT AND ABOUT!

Check out the latest countryside walks and events at [www.hiwwt.org.uk](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk) or to find out more about countryside sites and your Local Nature Reserves visit [www.iwight.com/countryside](http://www.iwight.com/countryside).

This edition of Wight Summer Walks is produced with kind support from:

- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
- IW Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Spectrum Housing
- Pinkeye Graphics
- Footprint Trust



**Cover picture** *Red squirrel at Alverstone Mead by Peter G Trimming*  
Red squirrels spend much of their time in the tree canopy. Telltale signs of squirrels include large dreys in trees and scratch marks on bark. On the ground look for nibbled pine cones that look like chewed apple cores.

*Other photographs are reproduced with kind permission of Hampshire and IW Wildlife Trust, Martin Blackmore and Pinkeye Graphics.*

*Design: [pinkeyegraphics.co.uk](http://pinkeyegraphics.co.uk)*