

Starting off a newsletter

Welcome to what we hope will be a useful resource for all Devon Birds members, where we share newsworthy stories, provide updates on our activities and give information about our projects and external support initiatives.

Of course no newsletter is worth having unless it contains interesting and informative information, so whatever ideas are out there, about what it should contain and how often it should be sent out, would be most helpful. Even better, would be stories from around the county about what you are doing and what is going on in the bird world around you.



Pictures are always welcome too.

We have signed the pledge



We were asked by the North Devon Biosphere and Devon County Council to support the Nature Recovery Declaration and their “Pledge for Nature” initiative.

Our Chairman, Nick Armstrong signed on behalf of Devon Birds, but anybody can find out more and make a pledge for nature using the following link

<https://www.biosphere.org.uk/pledge-for-nature/about>

We are supporting the Barn Owl Trust

The Barn Owl Trust recently contacted us seeking a grant to help them with their work in the conservation of Barn Owls across the country. The Barn Owl Trust is a small Devon Based charity and we were pleased to help them by paying for the seed and the ploughing of their winter bird feed crop.

More details about the trust and its work can be found using the following link [the barn owl trust](#)

There will be an opportunity for members to attend one of their walks in the near future. Watch out for this on the website.

The RSPB have opened booking for their Avocet Cruises on the Exe Estuary over the winter.

The RSPB have asked us to tell members about the winter cruises on the Exe Estuary , starting in November 2021 and continuing to March 2022.

There are a range of different cruises on offer, from birdwatching, to photography instruction, followed by a cruise.

Details can be found on the following link

RSPB: <https://rspbexeestuary.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Branch meetings can now go ahead

With the changes to Lockdown restrictions, Devon Birds Council has agreed that branch meetings and walks can resume.

Each Branch will manage its own arrangements, But Plymouth and East Devon Groups have already agreed some dates for walks. These will soon be visible on the website.

Devon Birds need your help

We are looking for a volunteer/s to take on the role of Editor for Devon Birds.

The role encompasses the editorship of the Devon Bird Report and other publications and would be an interesting and challenging way to help with the important work that the charity undertakes relating to all things birdwatching and recording.

The role involves organising the contributors for the various sections of the Devon Bird report, ensuring completeness, accuracy and standardisation of the sections, as well as arranging reviews, before the report is sent for typesetting and ultimately printing.

The data comes from a variety of sources and there is a need to build relationships with other organisations to ensure these are kept updated.

The editor is also responsible for the editing of the journal and would need to source articles etc. from contributors over the course of the year.

Initially we need some help to take over the Devon Bird Report, but over time more opportunities will arise relating to other publications.

The nature of the role means that this would be suitable for a number of volunteers to “share” responsibility.

Facebook

Devon Birds now has a facebook page, which we will use to publicise our activities and provide unusual sightings news. You can find it by searching for Devon Birds. If you have any difficulties please email Tony.utting@devonbirds.org. If you want to get involved in posting to the page please let us know.