



**Surrey**  
Wildlife Trust

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## Nature News

July 2023



### Lazy summer days

By July the breeding frenzy and urgent growth of spring is behind us –

wildflower meadows sway gently in the breeze, hedgerows begin to swell with fruits and most birds have quietened down after the drama of previous months. Yet there is still much to see on a hot summer's day.

July is a fantastic month for butterflies, with dozens of species on the wing. Dragonflies dance above our waterways, bees are busy in fields and gardens and Swifts, Swallows and House or even Sand Martins swoop through the summer skies. Bats rule the air on warm still evenings.

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## News & Views



### Rock up to West Horsley place for the Surrey Hedgerow Festival

**Saturday 21st October, 10am to 5pm**

Hedgerows are the forgotten heroes of our landscape, so let's celebrate them! To mark the success of our [Hedgerow Heritage](#) project ([www.saveourhedgerows.co.uk](http://www.saveourhedgerows.co.uk)), Surrey Wildlife Trust invites you to what is probably the UK's very first hedgerow-themed music and arts festival this October 21st.

Hosted by West Horsley Place, near Guildford, the day will feature great music from local performers as well as educational talks, storytelling, guided walks, art displays, roaming performances from Guildford Shakespeare, good food and locally brewed refreshments. You will, of course, also learn all about hedgerows, the wildlife they support and the skills we need to keep them healthy.

Admittance costs just £5, and is free for under-16s. Book your tickets now, stay tuned for updates, and be sure to join us for a fun day out for people of all ages.

[\*\*Book your tickets here\*\*](#)



## Rivers in focus with our new podcast series

Join Wetland Landscapes Manager Glen Skelton as he is interviewed by Design and Content Officer Marcus Wehrle, on a restored stretch of the River Wey. Glen talks about his extensive experience in river management and the difference it can make to aquatic ecosystems.

Look out for more podcasts in the months ahead....

[Listen to the podcast](#)



## Grazing herd goes into action

The landscapes of Surrey have been grazed for centuries and this has played a crucial role in shaping some of our most precious habitats. The Trust continues this practice to help preserve them today – and our herd of Belted Galloway cattle has now been deployed for its summer duties across many of our chalk grassland and heathland reserves.

Please treat these animals with respect and to give them some space when out walking.

[Find out more about conservation grazing](#)



## Nominations are open for our Community Champion Awards

These awards celebrate extraordinary Surrey communities and the contributions they make to help wildlife in their local area. Submit a nomination by Sunday 2nd July to shine a light on your group's achievements!

[Find out more](#)

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## Events coming up



## Courses on offer this Summer

Learn more about the species and habitats that really come alive during the Summer.

**7th July** | Learn how to identify magnificent Moths by viewing them up close with an expert. [Find out more >>](#)

**14th July** | Develop the skills to identify dragonflies & damselflies and discover how they have adapted to their habitat. [Find out more >>](#)

**27th July** | Spend a wonderful evening pond dipping and view pond life under a microscope. [Find out more >>](#)

**18th August** | Find out how you can create a wildflower meadow, cornfield or wildflower bed in your garden or green space. [Find out more >>](#)

**24th August** | Learn about British bats before conducting your own survey. [Find out more >>](#)



## Guildford Goes Wild

**Saturday 15th July, 10am-4pm**

**Location:** Zero Carbon Guildford 14 & 16 Friary St, Guildford (GU1 4EH) & the North Street Rotunda

Join for nature-themed games and giveaways, wildlife craft activities, FREE face painting, wildlife talks from expert speakers, vegan café & refreshments and much more.

### **Book onto the talks:**

11:00 - 11:30 | Action for Insects with Talay Namintraporn, Wildlife and Beetle Specialist. [Book now >>](#)



13:00 - 13:30 | Finding your Voice for Nature with Owen Gibbons,  
Campaigner and Strategist. [Book now >>](#)

15:00 - 15:30 | The Power of Communities with Bryony Carter, Community  
Organising Manager for The Wildlife Trusts. [Book now >>](#)

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## Things to do



### [Visit a chalk grassland](#)

Our chalk grasslands are ablaze with flowers and butterflies, and buzzing with bees, grasshoppers and other insects in June and July. Visit a site such as Sheepleas to experience this floral delight.

[Find out more >>](#)



## Your guide to a wild summer

Summer's here! Will it rain? Will it shine? Does it matter? Whatever the weather, there's loads to see and do in the great outdoors with the Trust!

[Find out more >>](#)

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## Vacancies

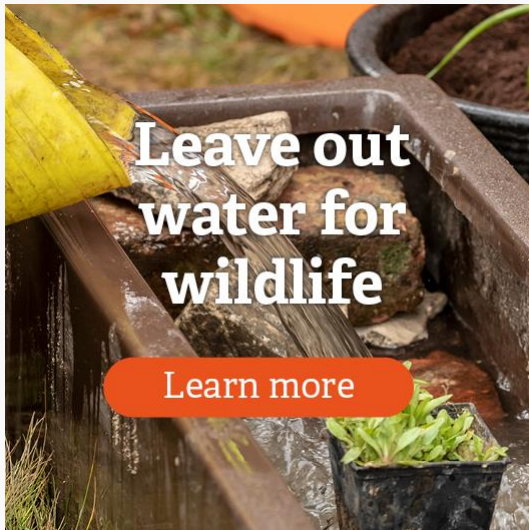
### Digital Marketing Executive

Surrey Wildlife Trust is looking for a Digital Marketing Executive to join our communications team. This is a real opportunity to make a difference by promoting the Trust's mission and expanding its online presence and fundraising power.

**Closing date:** 20th July

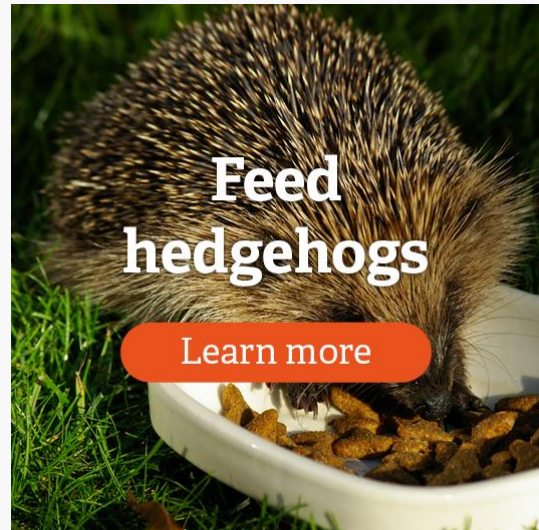
[Find out more and apply >>](#)

## In the garden



**Leave out  
water for  
wildlife**

Learn more



**Feed  
hedgehogs**

Learn more

## Nature's calendar



JULY

## Cinnabar Moth Caterpillars

The black and yellow caterpillars of the Cinnabar Moth are a common sight on poisonous ragwort plants in July. The caterpillar's bright colours warn predators not to eat them, giving a strong signal that they are as toxic as the plants they feed on!



JULY

## Painted Lady

A well-travelled migrant, the Painted Lady travels here every summer from Europe and Africa. This beautiful orange-and-black butterfly regularly visits gardens and can arrive in huge numbers if the conditions are right.



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