

BEES WILDLIFE FIELD VISIT PROGRAMME

For trips using the minibus, *the meeting point is at Culture Fusion (no parking available)* at 9.10am, or the Unitarian Centre, Russell Street, BD5 0JB (parking available for £2) ready for departure at 9.30am. Please ensure you return the booking form which pre- lists trips and prices (which vary according to distance). Please also email the leader if you are attending trips that are not using the minibus.

Please Note* Due to demolition work on the Mill next to the car park, the minibus will have to be parked outside the college, just up the hill. We will be setting off from Culture Fusion at 9.10am to walk to the minibus.

| Tuesday | January to April 2025 |
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| <p>7th January 2025</p> <p>Leader: Sally Tetlow</p> | <p>New Year's Walk</p> <p>A walk from Saltaire towards Bingley. Mainly along the towpath but also through woodland if conditions are suitable. The return route could be along the riverbank. Primarily to Dowley Gap, 2.5km, but a longer option may be available.</p> <p>Own/public transport. Metered parking on Caroline Street.</p> <p>Meeting time: 10.30am at Railway Bridge, bottom of Victoria Road, Saltaire.</p> |
| <p>21st January</p> | <p>Indoor social Culture Fusion</p> <p>Join us for an indoor Social at Culture Fusion. John will be showing photographs of his wildlife travels in Scotland and we will review the trips from 2024. It will also be an opportunity to contribute to the planning for the 2025 programmes. and an introduction to the new website. Bring food to be added to a buffet spread. Hot drinks provided.</p> <p>Culture Fusion 12 for 12.30 start, finish about 3.30</p> |
| <p>4th February</p> <p>Leader; Julia Pearson</p> | <p>Leighton Moss</p> <p>A site many of us are familiar with, offering a number of hides for views over water and reeds, with a chance to see water birds and harriers. We have watched otters in the past. The paths are surfaced and level. There are toilets and a cafe at the centre. Entrance fee for non-members £9.00, unless we have spare guest passes. If there are starlings roosting we will depart at about 5pm (est), so it could be a late return. We will not know whether this is likely until the days leading up to the visit. Please check at the time of this if necessary.</p> <p>Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am Pick up on The Branch route. Minibus Cost £12</p> |
| <p>18th February</p> <p>Leader; Margaret Rees</p> | <p>Breary Marsh and Paul's Pond</p> <p>February is not a very pleasant month, usually cold and wet. This is why we have chosen to visit a site near home (also good toilet and café facilities). Breary Marsh is an important example of the rare alder carr woodland, however there is a good gravel path leading to Paul's Pond (a specially created fish pond for Cookridge Hall). Significant conservation work has been recently completed including the creation of a dead hedge and new bridge. We will look out for signs of early flowering plants including butterbur and marsh marigold also fungi. Don't forget to scan the surrounding fields and sky for a sightings of wintering geese and linnets or even a deer or red kite. Paul's Pond can provide shelter for wintering wildfowl, also a heron or kingfisher. We will be playing it by ear and doing whatever the weather will allow. For those travelling in own transport meet at the Golden Acre car park at 10 30 am (car parking charges may well apply).</p> <p>Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Cost £7</p> |
| <p>4th March</p> | <p>Ogden Water</p> |

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| | <p>Ogden Water is owned by Yorkshire Water with its woodland being managed by Calderdale Countryside Services. There are numerous paths and trails available to explore some of these extending up to the open moorland. Walking distances will be tailored to suit those attending as there are some steep uphill sections. Some of these paths will be muddy so please wear appropriate footwear. There should be bird sightings within the woodland and perhaps some early emerging spring flora. There is a small visitor centre with toilet facilities but at the time of writing it is not known whether this will be open. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Cost £6</p> |
| <p>11th March Leader: Amanda Smith</p> | <p>Planning Meeting for Summer programmes Please join us to help finalise the summer programmes and shape programmes going forward. Meet 10am at Culture Fusion. Refreshments provided. Please let me know if you are planning to come 07970 621732.</p> |
| <p>25th March Leaders Margaret Rees Alice Gingell</p> | <p>Conyngnam Hall, Knaresborough, Tree Trail This will be a first for the group. We will explore the Conyngnam Hall Tree Trail a short (1km) walk around a park and miniature golf course near to the centre of Knaresborough. We will be identifying trees in winter looking at bark, twigs, leaf buds, conifers and early flowering shrubs. There is added interest as you can download the Tree Trail onto your mobile phone which will give you pictures of the trees in summer months as well as additional information, go to knaresboroughinbloom.wordpress.com/tree-trail. There should also be birding interest. We will have several interesting options for the remainder of the day. Facilities including toilet and café will be nearby. (The train station is a 5-minute walk from Conyngnam Hall car park from where we will set off.) Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Pick-ups Stone Trough and Pool bridge. Cost £11.</p> |
| <p>8th April Leader: Julia Pearson</p> | <p>Cattal (Aubert Ings) It has been 15 years since we last visited Aubert Ings, at the SE edge of Cattal village, to look for Wild Tulip. Will we be lucky? There may also be Fritillaries and signs of other spring plants. This is a small level site (though expect rough grassland), so we will plan to have a short visit to Staveley YWT as well, with the opportunity to see if our summer birds are arriving. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Route undecided. We will inform people of pickups before the visit. Cost £11</p> |
| <p>15th April Leader: John Gavaghan</p> | <p>St Aiden's RSPB, near Swillington A spring visit to this BEES favourite. A large RSPB site south east of Leeds, regarded as one of the top birding sites in Yorkshire. There are no bird hides for shelter. Toilet facilities are by the Visitor Centre at the entrance. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Pick up Low Moor Cost £10</p> |
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- **Trips depart from the Unitarian Church on Russell Street at 9.30am prompt, Return times vary.**
Parking is available here (max 10 cars) for a donation of £2 per car on the day. This car park is shared by two churches please park at the Unitarian side and be careful not to block access. If you wish to be picked up on route please ring the office to find where the minibus is making pick-ups.
- If you are on foot you can meet the minibus no later than 9.10 at the YMCA, Culture Fusion 125 Thornton Road. The meeting place is on the corner Thornton Road and Westholme Street.
- The return time cannot be guaranteed, but we try to give an indication in the write up if we expect to be back later than normal.
- All trips must be booked and paid for in advance (when applicable).
- Please donate £2.00 towards admin costs if you choose not to travel in the mini-bus when it is offered.
- Please remember to bring food and drink for the day and appropriate outdoor clothing.
- Volunteer Leaders plan the day. All participants must respect the guidance of the leader and communicate clearly with the leader. If any participants follow their own direction then Bradford YMCA does not take any responsibility for any accident or incident.
- All people irrespective of background and experience are welcome.
- BEES is a district wide environmental education and training centre funded by our own project work – for further information please contact the office or look at www.bees-ymca.org.uk.

Please inform BEES at the earliest opportunity if you wish to cancel a booking

(if you are cancelling after the Thursday before the trip, please contact the leader or co-ordinator)

This will enable us to offer the place to someone on the waiting list.

In the event of cancellation due to poor weather BEES would notify members and aim to rearrange date of visit.