

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 April to June 2025	
24th June Leaders: Sally Tetlow & Angela Fan	Bell Sykes Hay Meadow, nr Slaidburn Bell Sykes Meadows are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of the variety of meadow species that they contain and with good weather there should be a wide range of insects and butterflies to see as well. Our walk is 2.25 miles in total with 2 ladder stiles towards its latter stages but for those interested in the botanics, it is suggested a leisurely walk through the earlier meadows up to the farmhouse and a return via the same route thus avoiding the stiles. Paths for this are generally good but it should be noted there are open fields once past the farmhouse. Toilets available in car park in Slaidburn with cafe nearby. Leaders: Sally Tetlow & Angela Fan Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am Pick up Branch route. Cost £10
1st July Leaders Margaret Rees and Alice Gingell	Jervaulx Abbey Our visit to the ruins of this Cistercian Abbey will in the main be of botanical interest. A bonanza of flowers grow from the crevices of its walls and the grounds. In addition, there is a walk that can be taken alongside the River Ure and historic parkland. The Abbey ruins are privately owned and we are invited to make a donation towards the site upkeep. An honesty box has been placed at the entrance (suggest £2pp or more if you're feeling generous). There will be the possibility of a toilet break in West Tanfield. Unfortunately, the tea room at Jervaulx will be closed so bring a picnic lunch. Parking is available, no cost. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am Pick up at the Stone Trough Cost £11
8th July Leader Julia Pearson	Ribblehead Quarry by train Ribblehead Quarry has a range of limestone plants, with stoney mounds and wet areas offering a variety of habitats. We hope to see Melancholy Thistle, Marsh Helleborine, Northern Marsh Orchid and plenty of sedges. The quarry is a half mile walk from Ribblehead station. The walking is straightforward, and the loop around the quarry is a further half mile. There is very little shelter, so dress for the weather. It will be possible to return to the train from the quarry, but there will be the option of an extended walk towards Salt Lake Quarry, across rough pasture, including at least one stile and over half a mile road walking. This will add about 2.5 miles to the route, but the final details will be decided on the day.

Bradford Environmental Education Service | Part of the Landscape; Providing Environmental Education Since 1985

YMCA Bradford | Culture Fusion, 125 Thornton Road, Bradford, BD1 2EP | Tel: 01274 371303 or 01274 307 228
Mob: 07583 318539 or 07970 621732 | Email: bees@bradfordymca.org.uk | Web: bradfordymca.org.uk/wildlife-field-visits

	We will meet at Shipley station, platform 2, to catch the 9.33 Carlisle train, alighting at Ribbleshead. You are responsible for purchasing your ticket, which will vary from £12.55 (off peak day return with railcard) to £19 without a railcard. Costs will vary if you join the train elsewhere. Return trains from Ribbleshead are at 14.53, 16.15 and 17.43.
Tuesday 15th July Leader; Julia Pearson and John Gavaghan	Foulshaw Moss Foulshaw Moss is in the South Lakes, on the northern edge of Morecambe Bay. Cumbria Wildlife Trust have restored this lowland raised bog by reversing damage caused by drainage and tree planting. A boardwalk enables us to walk amongst the bog plants and insects, which may include White-faced Darters, and there is a raised platform facing the ospreys' nest, which is safe distance from visitor access (ie distant views). Another exposed site, so watch the weather forecast. From Foulshaw we will travel the short distance to Meathop Moss to look for Large Heath Butterflies. We may also call in at Latterbarrow, depending on the weather. We will stop at Settle on the way home for chips. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Pick Ups on Branch route Cost £12
22nd July Leaders; Alice Gingell and Sally Tetlow	Kiplingcotes Chalk Pit The different habitats of this nature recolonised pit support a wealth of chalk loving plants including the nationally rare red hemp-nettle and the much declined basil thyme. Greater knapweed, field scabious and burnet saxifrage encourage marble white butterflies. Yellow meadow ants abound – don't wear yellow! The hedgerows shelter blackcap, bullfinch and linnet while buzzards and red kites fly overhead. A short walk along the Hudson Way (to nearby Rifle butts quarry, a small but significant geological site,) is an option. Access at Kiplingcotes is down steep steps, the quarry floor is uneven and can be slippery when wet. There is no shelter. Toilet stop at nearby Market Weighton. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am Low Moor pick up Cost £11
5th August Leaders: Margaret Rees and Alice Gingell.	Burton Leonard Lime Quarry YWT Reserve Burton Leonard was a working quarry producing lime until 1941. Currently it is a small oasis for wildlife being surrounded by rich farmland. The site is famous for its abundance of flowers being a warm and sheltered spot. We will experience a variety of habitats which will include field margins, woodland, magnesian limestone grassland, scree slopes and the flat bottom of the quarry itself. We will walk a quarter of a mile along Lime Kiln Lane to the quarry entrance. We plan to visit a local garden centre for a drink and toilet break prior to the walk (to be confirmed). Please bring a packed lunch as usual. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. pick up Stone Trough Cost £11

12th August Leader: John Gavaghan	Smardale Gill The wildlife habitats here are a mixture of ancient woodland and limestone grasslands. Smardale is one of only two sites in England that's home to the Scotch Argus butterfly and we will be hoping to catch sight of this. The woodland is also home to the red squirrel. The tracks are classed as all-accessible and run along the old railway all the way to Smardale Viaduct (1.5 miles) which affords spectacular views. Extended Day chips on the way home again or bring extra food. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Pick-ups Branch Cost £13
19th August Leader: Kevin Walker	Wycoller Country Park Wycoller Country Park nr. Colne, Lancs. Starting off at Ball Grove Park/Nature Reserve with a short (flat) walk of about 2.5kms. (there and back) and a cafe stop in the Park on the way back if wanted. Then a short drive over to the Wycoller Country Park. Again, a short walk each way from the car park to Wycoller Hall (supposedly, the setting for 'Ferndean Manor' in 'Jane Eyre'). Wycoller is also famous for its fascinating old bridges spanning Wycoller Beck, so it's worth walking upstream a little from the Hall to view them. Minibus transport; depart Culture Fusion 9.10am*/Unitarian Church 9.30am. Cost £9
26th August Leader: Sally Tetlow	Sun Lane Nature Reserve, Burley-in-Wharfedale This reserve is approximately 12 acres of grassland with shrubby areas and mature trees around the periphery. The site was originally an old tip which was covered in 1975. Since this time it has become a wildlife haven with over 400 species of wildflower having been recorded here over the years. Devilsbit scabious is a key feature of this site with small teasel also being present. Breeding birds include blackcap, chiffchaff and willow warbler. Walking on rough grassland and gravel paths. Distance 1 to 2 miles. Own/Public Transport
2nd September Leader; Alice Gingell	Malham Tarn Starting from the car park at the southern end of the tarn, SD895657, we will pass through different habitats of grassland, mire and mixed woodland to reach the bird hide with views over the tarn. Late botanical interest should include devil's bit scabious, red bartsia and grass of Parnassus as well as sedges and rushes. The distance with return is approximately 3miles. There is the option of continuing to the boardwalk across the fen. As some will recall dress and footwear for cold and wet conditions are essential. The only shelter is our lunch venue, the hide. Toilet stop at Malham NT centre

- **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.