



LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

TALKS • WALKS • WORKSHOPS • EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2023 – FEBRUARY 2024



LONDON NATURAL
HISTORY SOCIETY



EVENT DETAILS

Events are open to all members and non-members are also welcome. All events are free of charge unless otherwise specified. Changes, updates, and further details for events listed in this programme will be posted on the website at www.lnhs.org.uk, and in the Society newsletter.

KEY

Talks Online lectures, hosted on Zoom, unless specified as an in-person event. For Zoom talks please book online here: <http://www.lnhs.org.uk/index.php/activities/virtualtalks>

We know how popular the virtual talks have been and we plan to run a further series of events throughout 2023. If you have any suggestions for speakers or any other comments, please contact virtualtalks@lnhs.org.uk

Field meetings Outdoor events held at a wide range of sites throughout our Recording Area.

Coach trips The LNHS no longer runs birding coach trips but recommends those organised by the Marylebone Birdwatching Society and the RSPB Central London Local Group.

ABOUT THE LNHS

The London Natural History Society (or LNHS as it is commonly known) is a long-running local natural history society within the UK concerned with recording the wildlife of London and covering an area within a 20-mile radius from St. Paul's Cathedral. The Society's aims include fostering the appreciation and study of London's wildlife and natural environment, and assisting in the conservation of wildlife in the London area by helping to record it. The Society's activities include running talks and field meetings throughout the year and producing a number of publications, including the annual *The London Naturalist* and *London Bird Report*.

THE LNHS LIBRARY

The LNHS library is a rich resource for naturalists. It's housed at the Natural History Museum, London and there is a Society Librarian. The catalogue is available on the Society's website. We are keen to see more members using this wonderful library so please do make time to visit. We hope to hold more events here so keep an eye on the website calendar for updates.

The LNHS has an extensive library of books, journals and other publications on British natural history, with a particular emphasis on the London region. It is housed in the Angela Marmont Centre for UK Biodiversity at the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD.

View the library's catalogue at <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/LNHS.Library>. That link and more info at the LNHS website (www.lnhs.org.uk). Contact the librarian at: library@lnhs.org.uk.

The library is open every Wednesday from 10:00 to 14:00. Other times by arrangement, email library@lnhs.org.uk.

FIND OUT MORE

Website: lnhs.org.uk

Instagram: @londonbirdclub

Twitter: @LNHSoc and @LondonBirdClub

Facebook: London Natural History Society and London Natural History Society Forum

Email: secretary@lnhs.org.uk

Registered charity no. 206228

The LNHS is run by a large and active team of volunteers. A full list is published in *The London Naturalist*. An abbreviated list of key contacts appears below. We are always happy to hear from people who would like to get involved. Contact emails are on the website.

LNHS Council: President: Vacant, Secretary: Annie Wilson (secretary@lnhs.org.uk), Treasurer:



Michael West (treasurer@lnhs.org.uk), Representative Members of Council: Maureen Parry (Botany), Liz Andrew (London Bird Club), Anke Marsh (Ecology and Entomology), Kat Duke (Hampstead Heath Survey), Vacant (Bookham Commons Survey). Elected Members of Council: David Bevan, Ian Woodward, Jan Hewlett, Joanne Maddox, Pete Mantle, Robin Blades, Noel Brock and Wendy Knight.

Administration and Finance Committee: Chair: Michael Wilsdon, Secretary: Jo Hatton.

Library Committee: Chair: Vacant, Andrew Planet (Botany), Leslie Bolsover (Librarian).

Virtual Talks Team: Maria Roberts, Anke Marsh. Email: virtualtalks@lnhs.org.uk.

PUBLICATIONS

London Bird Report Editorial Board: Chair: Vacant, Secretary: Annie Wilson (lbrsecretary@lnhs.org.uk), Papers Editor: Liz Andrew (lbrpapers@lnhs.org.uk).

The London Naturalist: Editor: Clive Herbert (armconservation@hotmail.com).

Newsletter: Editor: Mark Burgess (edlnhsnews@yahoo.co.uk).

LNHS Programme: Coordinator: Amy Muiy Liu (programmeeditor@lnhs.org.uk).

SECTIONS

Ecology and Entomology: Chair: Keiron Brown (entomologychair@lnhs.org.uk), Secretary: Nathalie Mahieu, Field Meetings Organiser: Tristan Bantock (hemiptera@lnhs.org.uk).

Hampstead Heath Survey: Chair: Liz Andrew (hampsteadchair@lnhs.org.uk), Secretary: Jeff Waage.

London Bird Club: Chair: Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne (LBCchair@lnhs.org.uk), Secretary: Cecilia Derrick (lbcsecretary@lnhs.org.uk), Field

Meetings Organiser: Amy Muiy Liu (programmeeditor@lnhs.org.uk), LBC Reading Circle Secretary: Angela Linnell (lbcreading@lnhs.org.uk).

Botany: Please contact Secretary Andrew Planet (botanysecretary@lnhs.org.uk). Field Meetings Organiser: Jon Agar (botanymeetings@lnhs.org.uk).

Bookham Commons Survey: Please contact the Society Secretary (secretary@lnhs.org.uk)

GUIDANCE FOR FIELD MEETINGS

Field meetings are a great opportunity for participants to meet other members, including experts, and learn from them. The nature of each field meeting will be different and the leader will be familiar with any potential risks. Participants are asked to be mindful of their own safety and that of others. Dogs, except registered guide dogs, are not normally allowed on field meetings. Bring water and sunscreen, also lunch and a snack on whole-day meetings. Stout shoes or boots are advisable. Binoculars and/or hand lenses are recommended. Cars are not needed unless otherwise specified. On occasion there may be extra field meetings or cancellations at short notice. We recommend checking the LNHS website on the morning of any event you wish to attend in case of last-minute changes, which will be posted on the website where possible www.lnhs.org.uk/index.php/activities/full-programme

MEMBERSHIP

Use this link <http://lnhs.org.uk/index.php/join-now> to access on-line and postal LNHS joining options.

SEPTEMBER 2023



Sat 02 Sep 2023 10:30-15:00 Hampstead Heath Survey Section

Field Meeting

Hampstead Heath – Tony Madgwick

Hampstead Heath late summer bees, wasps and flies. Meet at the Flagstaff by Whitestone Pond (TQ26237 86366) - 10 mins up the hill (A502, Heath Street) from Hampstead underground station. Bring lunch. Toilets on the Heath. All welcome.

Sat 02 Sep 2023 10:00-16:00 Ecology & Entomology Section

Field Meeting

Paradise Fields (Horsenden Hill) – Imogen Cavadino

Mollusc Field Recorder Day. Join us to record the slugs and snails of Paradise Fields (Horsenden Hill) in Ealing. Mollusc recorders of all ability groups welcome, with a mollusc specialist on hand to provide support and guidance. Booking via Biological Recording Company essential. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/field-recorder-days-1485759>

Sun 03 Sep 2023 10:00-12:30 London Bird Club

Field Meeting

Alexandra Palace – Andrew Peel

Alexandra Park for woodland birds, woodpeckers, waterbirds (maybe Kingfisher), possible migrants. Meet in entrance to Wood Green Underground Station (Piccadilly line). (Toilets).

Sat 09 Sep 2023 10:30-15:00 Bookham Commons Survey

Field Meeting

Bookham Commons – Tommy Root

Bookham Commons Plant Galls. This is a shared field meeting between LNHS and the Ecology and Conservation Studies Society. Meet at Bookham Railway Station at 10:30. Bring lunch. The LNHS hut will be available for making tea and coffee at lunchtime and there is also a toilet available.

Sat 09 Sep 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany

Field Meeting

Horsenden Hill – Mario Maculan

Horsenden Hill and Canal path. Mario Maculan. 11:00-15:00. Meet at Perivale u/g station at 11:00. Bring lunch.





Sat 09 Sep 2023 10:30-14:30 London Bird Club
Rainham Marshes – Dave Clark

Field Meeting

Rainham Marshes RSPB for autumn birds, residents including Marsh Harrier, summer migrants & waders. Meet at Reserve Car Park. Nearest station Purfleet (NR Fenchurch St). Bring lunch. Fee for non-RSPB members. (Cafe & Toilets).

Sat 16 Sep 2023 10:00-13:00 London Bird Club
Ruislip Woods – Neil Anderson

Field Meeting

Ruislip Woods NNR for woodland birds and general natural history in Autumn. Meet at bus stop for the Ruslip Lido (near Water's Edge pub) in Reservoir Road. Nearest tube station Ruislip (Met/Picco). From Ruislip Tube Station, from Bus Stop B take H13 to Ruislip Lido (Note, not adjoining Bus Stop A for H13 to Northwood Hills). Get off at Bus Stop 'Ruislip Lido' (Stop W) on Reservoir Rd. Alternatively, from Ruislip Tube Stn take bus 331 to Bus Stop 'Reservoir Road' (Stop N) on Ducks Hill Rd and walk to meeting point. Long half day. (Toilets, cafe & pub!)

Sat 23 Sep 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany
East Finchley Cemetery – Bettina Metcalfe

Field Meeting

Looking at trees at East Finchley Cemetery. Bettina Metcalfe. 11:00-15:00. Meet at main entrance East End Road at 11 am. Bring lunch. <https://goo.gl/maps/R2oQdG2yCgUzkjF88>

Sun 24 Sep 2023 10:30-14:00 London Bird Club
London Wetland Centre – Mike Howard

Field Meeting

London Wetland Centre. One of Europe's premier urban wetland reserves. Autumn birds and other wildlife. Meet outside visitor centre at 10.30am by Sir Peter Scott statue. Tickets required for Non-WWT members, see WWT website for prices. For directions see <https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/london/plan-your-visit/directions/> Cafe and Toilets.

Sun 24 Sep 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany
Mitcham Common – Mario Maculan

Field Meeting

Meet at Mitcham Junction station at 11:00. Bring lunch.

Sat 30 Sep 2023 10:00-14:00 London Bird Club
Wormwood Scrubs – Francis O'Sullivan

Field Meeting

Wormwood Scrubs. To look for Autumn migrants including Stonechat and Whinchat. Residents include Meadow Pipit & Linnet. 10.00-14.00. Meet at East Acton underground station (Central Line). No toilets.

OCTOBER 2023



Wed 04 Oct 2023 11:00-15:00 Ecology & Entomology Section
 Centre for UK Nature, Natural History Museum – Keiron Derek Brown

Indoor

Invertebrate Study Day. Join LNHS invertebrate recorders to get help with specimen ID and record verification at the NHM. Microscopes and lab equipment will be available for use and the LNHS library will be accessible for attendees to make use of. Booking via Biological Recording Company essential. Spaces limited. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/invertebrate-study-days-1493479>

Sat 07 Oct 2023 10:30-15:00 Joint Hampstead Heath Survey Section & London Bird Club

Field Meeting

Hampstead Heath – Pete Mantle and Kennedy Cruickshank

Hampstead Heath. Pete Mantle and Kennedy Cruickshank. Joint London Bird Club and Hampstead Heath Survey Section. Hampstead Heath for autumn birds, and other wildlife. Look for thrushes feeding on autumn berries. Meet outside Hampstead Heath Overground Station. Bring lunch.

Sat 07 Oct 2023 10:00-16:00 Ecology & Entomology Section
 Grove Farm, Ealing – Keiron Derek Brown

Field Meeting

Earthworm Sampling Day. Join us on a sampling day and help us survey Grove Farm for earthworms. No experience required - training will be provided on the day.. Sampling earthworms involves conducting microhabitat searches and hand-sorting soil pit samples to collect specimens for identification by our trained earthworm recorders at a later date. Booking via Biological Recording Company essential. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/field-recorder-days-1485759>

Sat 07 Oct 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany
 Croxley Common – Mario Maculan

Field Meeting

Croxley Common Moor & Weston Wood. Mario Maculan. 11:00-15:00. Meet at Croxley u/g station at 11:00. Bring lunch



Sun 08 Oct 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany
Tamworth Farm Allotments – Roy Vickery

Field Meeting

Tamworth Farm Allotments, Mitcham. Allotment Weeds. Roy Vickery. Meet at entrance to the Allotments, off London Road, CR4 3LB, entrance via track beside Melbury College Lavender Campus. Nearest tube station Tooting Broadway, then bus 264, 270, 280 or 335 to Figges Marsh; nearest mainline station Tooting, then 10 minute walk. A further visit to south London allotments to record wild plants; all, especially beginners, welcome. Please bring packed lunch. Toilets available. Due to narrow paths we need to know how many people are coming so that we can plan accordingly, please inform roy@plant-lore.com if you intend to attend. Joint with South London Botanical Institute.

Sun 15 Oct 2023 10:00-13:00 London Bird Club
Russia Dock Woodland – John Cadera

Field Meeting

Russia Dock Woodland autumn walk. Meet at park entrance at Omega Gate. Surrey Quays (London Overground) or Canada Water (Jubilee underground) and walk. Roadwork before Canada Water Station - plan extra time when travelling. Alternatively, Bermondsey Tube Stn (Jubilee) and Bus 381 to Omega Gate stop or Bus 188 to Surrey Quays Stn and walk. Toilets in Surrey Quays Shopping Centre. Bring lunch.

Sat 21 Oct 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany
Hanwell Cemetery – Bettina Metcalfe

Field Meeting

Looking at trees in Hanwell (City of Westminster) Cemetery. Bettina Metcalfe. 11:00-15:00. Meet at Hanwell Cemetery, W7 3PP, on Uxbridge Rd (A4020) at 11am. Bring lunch <https://goo.gl/maps/8b3JTYzd9JaB8BX9A>

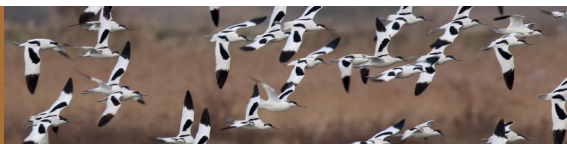
Sun 22 Oct 2023 10:00-15:00 Botany
Haringey – Mario Maculan and Mark Spencer

Field Meeting

The Haringey Fungus Foray. Queens Wood & Alexandra Palace. Mario Maculan and Mark Spencer. Meet 1000 Highgate u/g (Northern), at the junction of Wood Lane and Muswell Hill Rd (TQ28478821), on the north-west side of the station. We will first explore Queens Wood then move on to Alexandra Palace. This will be an education event. Bring lunch.



NOVEMBER 2023



Sat 04 Nov 2023 10:30-17:00 London Bird Club

Field Meeting

Two Tree Island – Robin Blades

Two Tree Island for Brent Geese, Avocet and high tide wader roost. Meet Leigh-on-Sea Station (NR Fenchurch Street). All day. Bring lunch. (Toilets).

Sun 05 Nov 2023 10:30-15:00 Hampstead Heath Survey Section

Field Meeting

Hampstead Heath – Mario Tortelli

Hampstead Heath Fungal Foray. Meet outside Hampstead Heath Overground station (which is a few minutes' walk from Belsize Park tube station). Bring lunch. Toilets on the Heath. All welcome.

Thu 09 Nov 2023 18:30-20:00 Hampstead Heath Survey Section

Section AGM

Online – Mick Massie

Hampstead Heath Survey AGM and talk by Mick Massie. Find out the latest news on the Hampstead Heath Survey at the AGM, followed by a talk by Mick Massie, A Tale of Two Heaths: a comparison of the natural history of Hampstead Heath and Hounslow Heath. Register in usual way for LNHS Virtual Talks.

Thu 16 Nov 2023 18:30-20:00 London Bird Club

Section AGM

Online Speaker – TBC

London Bird Club AGM. AGM starts at 6.30pm followed by talk at 7pm. Register in usual way for LNHS Virtual Talks.

Sun 19 Nov 2023 10:30-14:00 London Bird Club

Field Meeting

London Wetland Centre – Gehan de Silva

London Wetland Centre for wintering birds and other wildlife in autumn. At one of Europe's premier urban wetland reserves, we will look for Bittern, wintering wildfowl and more. Meet outside visitor centre by Sir Peter Scott statue. Tickets required for Non-WWT members, see WWT website for prices. Directions & Facilities: See London Wetland Centre website. (Café & Toilets.)

Sat 25 Nov 2023 11:00-15:00 Botany

Field Meeting

Olympic Way, Wembley – Bettina Metcalfe

Looking at trees on Olympic Way in Wembley. Bettina Metcalfe. 11:00-15:00. An avenue of pairs of different trees called the 'Avenue of Champions' has been planted leading to Wembley Stadium. Meet at Wembley Park Tube Station at 11am. Bring lunch

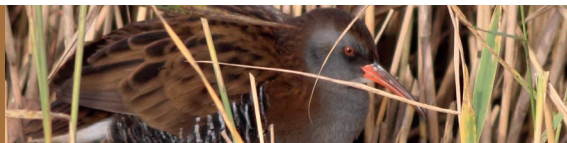
Sun 26 Nov 2023 10:00-14:00 London Bird Club

Field Meeting

Crossness – George Kalli

Crossness for wintering ducks, goose, waders and birds of prey. Meet at Belvedere Station at 10am. (NR Charing Cross) Bring lunch. Portaloos available on TWA reserve.

DECEMBER 2023



Fri 01 Dec 2023 10:30-15:00 Botany

Deptford – Nick Bertrand

Field Meeting

The traditional hunt for wildflowers in flower in Deptford on the first day of winter. We found over 80 species last year what will we find this? Nick Bertrand. Meet 10:30 Deptford Stn (What3Words /// people.forgot.blitz TQ371774, NR CannonSt). Joint with the Creekside EducationTrust.

Sat 02 Dec 2023 10:30-15:00 Hampstead Heath Survey Section

Hampstead Heath – David Carr (BAS Area Organiser for Herts and Cambs)

Field Meeting

Hampstead Heath Winter Spider Survey. Bring lunch. Meet at the Flagstaff by Whitestone Pond (TQ 26237 86366) - 10 mins up the hill (A502, Heath St) from Hampstead underground station. Toilets on the Heath. All welcome.

Sat 02 Dec 2023 10:00-13:00 London Bird Club

Ruislip Woods – Dick Middleton

Field Meeting

Ruislip Woods NNR for woodland birds, wintering waterfowl and gulls and general natural history. Meet at bus stop for the Ruislip Lido (near Water's Edge pub) in Reservoir Road. Nearest tube station Ruislip (Met/Picc). From Ruislip Tube Station, from Bus Stop B take H13 to Ruislip Lido (Note, not adjoining Bus Stop A for H13 to Northwood Hills). Get off at Bus Stop 'Ruislip Lido' (Stop W) on Reservoir Rd. Alternatively, from Ruislip Tube Stn take bus 331 to Bus Stop 'Reservoir Road' (Stop N) on Ducks Hill Rd and walk to meeting point. Long half day. (Toilets, cafe & pub!)

Thu 07 Dec 2023 18:30 LNHS

Online – TBC

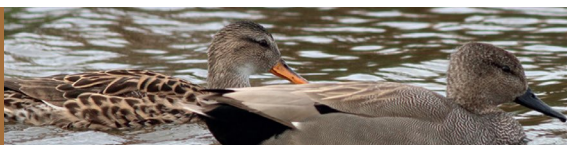
AGM

LNHS AGM. AGM starts at 18:30 followed by talk at around 19:00. Register in the usual way for LNHS Virtual Talks.





JANUARY 2024



Tue 02 Jan 2024 11:00-15:00 Botany
Shadwell and Limehouse – Jon Agar

Field Meeting

New Year Plant Hunt. Jon Agar. 11:00-15:00. How many plants in flower can we find? Results will be submitted to the BSBI New Year Plant Hunt 2024 database. Meet 11am outside Shadwell overground station. The route will take us through St-George-in-the East, Shadwell Basin, King Edward Memorial Park and Limehouse Basin. Bring lunch

Sun 07 Jan 2024 9:30-13:00 London Bird Club
Greenwich Peninsular and Ecology Park – George Kalli

Field Meeting

Greenwich Peninsular and Ecology Park for ducks, kingfisher, waders and goose. Meet at North Greenwich Station(Jubilee) at 9:30. Toilets at station and on Ecology Park

Sat 13 Jan 2024 10.30-15:00 Botany
Keston and Hayes Commons – Stephen Lemon

Field Meeting

Keston and Hayes Commons for mosses and liverworts, in areas of lowland heath, acid grassland, woodland and bog. Meet 10.30 Hayes (Kent) station TQ 40040 66049 (NR Charing Cross or Canon Street). Walking distance c.3-4 miles. Finishes 15:00. This is a joint meeting with the British Bryological Society South East Group.

Sun 14 Jan 2024 10:00-13:00 London Bird Club
Bedfont Lakes – Andrew Peel

Field Meeting

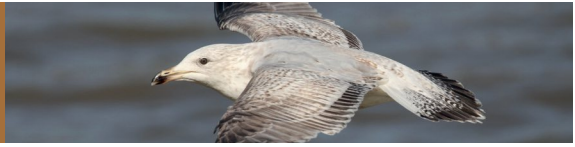
Bedfont Lakes for woodpeckers, wildfowl, redwing; bittern possible. Meet at Hatton Cross station at 09:40 for 09:55 H26 bus to Bedfont Road entrance car park (next to cemetery). Long half day, toilets.

Sat 27 Jan 2024 11:00-15:00 Botany
Archway – Bettina Metcalfe

Field Meeting

Looking at trees around Archway Station. Bettina Metcalfe. 11:00-15:00. Looking at trees around the area and Elthorne Estate. Meet at Navigator Square opposite Archway tube Station at 11am. Bring lunch. <https://goo.gl/maps/GkLFJi7KP34HEmjF7>

FEBRUARY 2024



Sat 03 Feb 2024 10:30-13:30 Hampstead Heath Survey Section
Hampstead Heath – Jeff Duckett

Field Meeting

Hampstead Heath Bryophyte Survey. Explore the mosses and liverworts on the Heath. Meet at the Flagstaff by Whitestone Pond (TQ 26237 86366) – 10 mins up the hill (A502, Heath St) from Hampstead underground station. Toilets on the Heath. All welcome.

Sat 24 Feb 2024 11:00-15:00 Botany
Islington – Bettina Metcalfe

Field Meeting

Looking at trees in Islington. Meet at 11am at Arlington Square. Bettina Metcalfe. 11:00-15:00. Bring lunch <https://goo.gl/maps/V3A8aqtWGAXJ7PCe7>

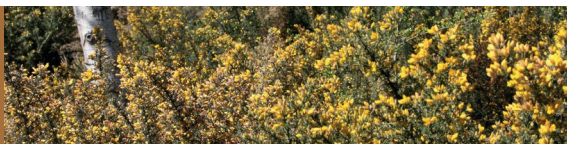
Sat 24 Feb 2024 10:30-14:30 London Bird Club
Rainham Marshes – Patrick Hart

Field Meeting

Rainham Marshes RSPB for wintering waterfowl, waders and raptors, including Marsh Harrier, Shoveler, Wigeon, Pintail, Ruff, Rock Pipit and Water Pipit. Meet at Reserve Car Park. Nearest station Purfleet (NR Fenchurch St). Bring lunch. Fee for non-RSPB members. (Cafe & Toilets).



SURVEYS



BOOKHAM COMMONS SURVEY

Bookham Commons lies close to Leatherhead in Surrey. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest which is owned and managed by the National Trust. It comprises two commons: Great Bookham Common and Little Bookham Common. It consists mainly of oak woodland and scrub grassland, with a stream and nine ponds, and it is around 400 acres (160 ha) in size. The ecological survey of Bookham Commons by members of the LNHS was established in 1941 and has been running ever since, which means historical data can provide a baseline for examining subsequent changes in the site's ecology.

The group will meet at Bookham station at 10.30am by the gate leading onto the site. The LNHS hut will be open at lunchtime for making drinks and there will also be a toilet available. These sessions will be self-led meetings and participants are welcome to explore the site and follow their own interests. Please note any findings and log your records (including species, grid references, name of observer and date).

- Please submit records through the LNHS iRecord activity: <https://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/>

[user?group_id=1629&destination=join/london-natural-history-society](http://www.lnhs.org.uk/index.php/group_id=1629&destination=join/london-natural-history-society)

- Or send them to the relevant LNHS recorder: <http://www.lnhs.org.uk/index.php/recording/general>
- See the Society's website for more information about the survey: <http://www.lnhs.org.uk/index.php/sections/bookham-common-survey>

HAMPSTEAD HEATH SURVEY

The Hampstead Heath Survey is a long-term project to record the flora and fauna in this large area (more than 300 ha) of semi-natural habitat, including a SSSI of ancient woodland and sphagnum bog, entirely surrounded by the urban environment of North London. Walks and study events, focused on various aspects of the ecology and wildlife of the Heath, are held throughout the year. All are welcome, experts and beginners alike, so come along and bring your friends if you want to discover more about Hampstead Heath's diversity of wildlife. For more information, and if you would like to get involved in some of the study events, contact Liz Andrew (hampsteadchair@lnhs.org.uk).

