

NORTH WEST

BIRD WATCHING FESTIVAL

Sat 16 – Sun 17
November 2019

at MARTIN MERE
WETLAND CENTRE



Tickets and more visit
www.wwt.org.uk/nwbwf

Activities



Birds of Prey

Sat and Sun 9am-4pm

Local rescue centre Corio Raptors will be at the festival with a range of birds of prey which they have rescued and rehabilitated. Get up close to amazing species such as owls and kestrels.



Reserve Walk

Sat 9-10.30am

Sun 9-10.30am & 12.30-1.30pm

Join Reserve Warden Jack Grimsditch on a guided tour of the reserve. He'll show you all the best spots on the reserve and will introduce you to our most interesting wetland species.



Waterfowl Ringing Demonstration

Sat and Sun 10.30-11.30am

Martin Mere's Reserve Manager Louise Clewley will demonstrate how and why we ring waterfowl. We'll be ringing various species including Pintail, Shelduck and Teal.



Illustration Demonstration

Sat and Sun 1-2pm

Local wildlife artist Chris Shields will be doing a live illustration drawing of Swan Lake. Come and see this incredible artist at work – he'll be available to answer any of your wildlife drawing questions.



£5pp

Reserve Walk with Nigel Marven

Sat only 12.30-1.30pm

Take a walk with Wildlife Presenter Nigel Marven around our amazing reserve. You'll have the opportunity to ask questions while enjoying the scenery of Martin Mere.



£5pp

Photography Workshop

Sat and Sun 10am-12pm & 1-3pm

Join photographer Alan Hewitt as he goes through various skills and techniques. You'll start with exposure modes, the use of ISO and exposure compensation, then move onto autofocus settings. Once your cameras are set up, you'll head out into the reserve and put learning into practice.



Bird Ringing Demonstration

Sat and Sun 12-2pm

Expert bird ringer and Martin Mere Reserve Manager Louise Clewley will demonstrate how bird ringing is done and explain why it is such important work. Get your camera ready for some great close ups!



£3pp

Floodlit Swans

Sat and Sun 5-6pm

Come and see the amazing sight of upto 2,000 whooper swans roosting on our mere. You'll be in the cosy comfort of our Raines Observatory as our warden tells you about these amazing birds – all lit up by floodlights. It's not to be missed!

Activities are FREE with entry unless stated. All paid activities can either be pre-booked online or paid for on the day. For all free activities, collect your tickets on the day.

For more details and to book tickets visit
www.wwt.org.uk/NWBWF

Lecture Theatre Guest Speakers



£5pp

Nigel Marven - A Life with Birds Sat 11am-12pm

Nigel has been producing wildlife films for 35 years, presenting them for 20. With clips of video and behind the scenes photos he'll share some of his golden moments.



John Dempsey - A Birding Year on the Sefton Coast Sat 12.30-1.30pm

John Dempsey presents this illustrated talk looking at the highs and lows of a year birding on the Sefton coast, from Crosby Coastal Park to the vastness of the Ribble Estuary (with a few other places squeezed in too!).



£5pp

Kate Bradbury - Wildlife Gardening Sun 11am-12pm

Kate Bradbury will be talking about wildlife gardening, touching on the basic elements of habitat creation and focussing in detail on the different types of flowers gardeners should grow to attract the greatest diversity of pollinating insects.



Jack Perks - Filming Birds & Other Wildlife Underwater Sun 12.30-1.30pm

Jack is a professional underwater cameraman and photographer. His talk goes through some of the species he's encountered, how he films them and the unique behaviours of these species.



£5pp

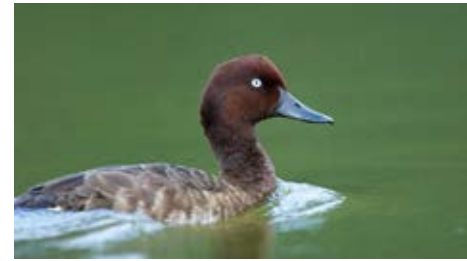
Nigel Marven - Addicted to Whooper Swans Sat 2-3pm

Working with Scottish writer Jim Crumley, Nigel produced a BBC film about whooper swans. This talk shares the journey made by the swans and film crew from Iceland to Scotland, including how the team reared cygnets in an attempt fly with them.



Nick Brooks - Chile: Top to Bottom Sat 3.30-4.30pm

Martin Mere's General Manager, Nick Brooks, talks about his solo wildlife journey from the top to the bottom of Chile: visiting America's only mainland king penguin colony, tracking down pumas and driving one of the world's most dangerous roads in search of the Diademed Sandpiper Plover.



Peter Cranswick - Saving the World's Rarest Bird Sun 2-3pm

Madagascar Pochard is arguably the world's rarest bird. To save and then to restore the species in a very remote location throws up many and varied challenges, requiring innovation and a never-say-die attitude. Hear how WWT achieved this.



Nick Brooks - South West Africa: Cross Country Sun 3.30-4.30pm

Nick Brooks presents his solo wildlife journey from Victoria Falls, via the Okavango Delta to The Namibian Coast and South Africa's Kgalagadi National Park: finding big cats, 400 species of birds and coming face to face with hippos.

Education Centre Guest Speakers

Wader Quest
Sat and Sun 11-11.45am
An Inspiration of Waders.

Lunt Meadows Nature Reserve
Sat and Sun 12-12.45pm

Bolton & Bury Swift Conservation
Sat and Sun 1-1.45pm
A Swift Recovery?

Dee Estuary Voluntary Wardens
Sat and Sun 2-2.45pm
Wirral's Wonderful Waders.

All paid talks can either be pre-booked online or paid for on the day. For all free talks, collect your tickets on the day.

Exhibitors

There'll be a wide range of exhibitors during the weekend, selling everything from books and artwork to wildlife holidays:



Bolton & Bury Swift Conservation



Chris Shields
www.illustratedwildlife.com



Garrick Books



ILEX WILD ARTS



Lancashire, Manchester & N Merseyside



Photography competition

Do you want your photograph to be on the front cover of next year's North West Bird Watching Festival brochure?

Take part in our photography competition! We want to see your best photo from your visit during the festival. Share your photo on Twitter or Instagram, tag us @WWTMartinMere and use #NWBWF by Saturday 30 November 2019 to be in with a chance of winning. There's a goodie bag of bird care essentials up for grabs too - get snapping!

*Terms and Conditions apply, see website for details.

Quick guide Saturday

Activity	Time	Location	
Birds of Prey	9am-4pm	Pond Zone Pavilion	
Reserve Walk	9-10.30am	Meet at Rushes Play Area	
Photography Workshop with Alan Hewitt	10am-12pm	Pond House	£5pp
Waterfowl Ringing Demonstration	10.30-11.30am	Discovery Hide	
Nigel Marven: Guest Speaker Talk	11am-12pm	Lecture Theatre	£5pp
Wader Quest: Guest Speaker Talk	11-11.45am	Education Centre	
Bird Ringing Demonstration	12-2pm	Janet Kear Hide	
Lunt Meadows Nature Reserve: Guest Speaker Talk	12-12.45pm	Education Centre	
John Dempsey: Guest Speaker Talk	12.30-1.30pm	Lecture Theatre	
Reserve Walk with Nigel Marven	12.30-1.30pm	Meet at Rushes Play Area	£5pp
Illustration Demonstration with Chris Shields	1-2pm	Main Building Concourse	
Bolton & Bury Swift: Guest Speaker Talk	1-1.45pm	Education Centre	
Photography Workshop with Alan Hewitt	1-3pm	Pond House	£5pp
Nigel Marven: Guest Speaker Talk	2-3pm	Lecture Theatre	£5pp
Dee Estuary Voluntary Wardens: Guest Speaker Talk	2-2.45pm	Education Centre	
Swan Feed	3-3.30pm	Discovery Hide	
Swan Feed	3.30-4pm	Raines Observatory	
Nick Brooks: Guest Speaker Talk	3.30-4.30pm	Lecture Theatre	
Floodlit Swans	5-6pm	Raines Observatory	£3pp

Activities are FREE with entry unless stated.

All details correct at time of printing, please see website for latest schedule.

Quick guide Sunday

Activity	Time	Location	
Birds of Prey	9am-4pm	Pond Zone Pavilion	
Reserve Walk	9-10.30am	Meet at Rushes Play Area	
Photography Workshop with Alan Hewitt	10am-12pm	Pond House	£5pp
Waterfowl Ringing Demonstration	10.30-11.30am	Discovery Hide	
Kate Bradbury: Guest Speaker Talk	11am-12pm	Lecture Theatre	£5pp
Wader Quest: Guest Speaker Talk	11-11.45am	Education Centre	
Bird Ringing Demonstration	12-2pm	Janet Kear Hide	
Lunt Meadows Nature Reserve: Guest Speaker Talk	12-12.45pm	Education Centre	
Jack Perks: Guest Speaker Talk	12.30-1.30pm	Lecture Theatre	
Reserve Walk	12.30-1.30pm	Meet at Rushes Play Area	
Illustration Demonstration with Chris Shields	1-2pm	Main Building Concourse	
Bolton & Bury Swift: Guest Speaker Talk	1-1.45pm	Education Centre	
Photography Workshop with Alan Hewitt	1-3pm	Pond House	£5pp
Peter Cranswick: Guest Speaker Talk	2-3pm	Lecture Theatre	
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Floodlit Swans	5-6pm	Raines Observatory	£3pp

For more details and to book tickets visit
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Plan your day

Activity	Time	Location

Notes

A vertical area with horizontal dotted lines for taking notes.



Tasty Treats

The Mere Side Café will be open from 9am on both days offering mouth-watering breakfasts and warming lunches. Choose from a full English, wholesome soup, homemade sandwiches and delicious cakes, as well as a full range of hot and cold drinks.



Gorgeous Gifts

In our shop, we've got plenty of souvenirs of your day out at Martin Mere, plus a great collection of books about wetland wildlife and a wide range of feeders and bird care items for your garden birds. Every penny you spend in our shop goes to support our vital conservation work.

General information

Opening times

The grounds and visitor centre 9am–5pm (With last admission at 4pm).

The reserve 8am–5pm

Mere Side Café 9am–4pm

Getting here

Our address - Fish Lane, Burscough, Lancashire, L40 0TA

By car - follow the brown duck signs from J8 on the M61, J3 on the M58 and J27 on the M6

Group visits

We have a dedicated coach car park, plus your group leader can have a free orientation visit before the trip. We offer group admission prices for group visits of 12 or more people.

Group rates: Adult £11.05, Concession £9.38, Children £5.90

To book a group visit, please email info.martinmere@wwt.org.uk

For a full list of admission prices, please visit the North West Bird Watching Festival website.



For more details visit
wwwt.org.uk/NWBWF