

EXCURSIONS – 2016

Sunday 3rd April

Joint outing with RSPB to Coulter Waterhead, South Lanarkshire

Leader: Ewan Douglas 0141 8865232

Meet at the Watermill car park, Paisley at 8.45am.

We will proceed to the services at Junction 13 on the M74 for a 10 minute break, then on to the A702 to Coulter and drive in convoy from there to the parking area so that no one becomes lost. The walk is about 2 miles on a surfaced road and the area is excellent for viewing Ring Ouzels, Wheatear, Stonechat, Meadow Pipits, Birds of Prey etc. There are no facilities so bring packed lunches, drinks and warm clothing.

Parking at 'Birthwood' is limited so car-sharing is essential.

Sunday 8th May

Sallochy Wood, East Loch Lomondside

The RSPB Renfrew Local Group are organising an outing to Sallochy Wood on the banks of Loch Lomond. Ewan Douglas will be collecting names and contact details at the next PNHS meeting on the 7th April on behalf of the RSPB Renfrew Group for anyone interested in this outing. It is hoped that oak wood summer migrants such as Common Redstart, Pied Flycatcher, Tree Pipit, Wood Warbler etc. will be heard and seen. There is a £3 parking charge and toilets at the Sallochy Wood car park.

Meet at Sallochy at 10am. Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 5th June

Search for the Small Blue Butterfly at SWT Gales Marsh reserve.

Leader: Tom Byars 01294 466393

Meet at the Watermill car park, Paisley for 10am to arrange car-sharing.

The Small Blue is the UK's smallest butterfly. It became extinct in south west Scotland in the early 1980s and attempts have recently been made to re-introduce this butterfly to the SWT reserve at Gales Marsh. Kidney Vetch is required for the life-cycle of this butterfly. Gill Smart, the reserve manager, will show us the extensive conservation work which has been undertaken for the Small Blue and she will also point out other invertebrates, flowers and birds to be seen at Gales Marsh.

Bring a packed lunch.

Saturday 23rd July

Butterflies at Ardeer

Lesder: Tom Byars 01294 466393

Meet at the Watermill car park, Paisley for 11am to arrange car-sharing.

Until 1998 the land at Ardeer was the site for an ICI explosives factory. Today there are large areas of abandoned overgrown ground on which a variety of butterfly species thrive. It is hoped that we will see Dark Green Fritillary, Grayling, Small Heath, Ringlets, flowers and birds. The site is still monitored for security purposes. This trip is therefore limited to just 10 people who must be fit as it involves scrambling over rocks.

Please contact Tom Byars to book a place on this trip which will have to be on a first come first served basis. Bring a packed lunch.