**COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**



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| **Course Title:** An Introduction to the Birds of Farmland | | | **Day/Date/Year:**  Wednesday 1 April 2020 |
| **Start Time:** 9.30am | | **Finish Time:**  1pm | |
| **Course Tutor:** | Mike Russell | | |
| **Course description and subjects covered** | These special half day bird safaris are aimed at giving beginners an introduction to the bird life of Sussex in a variety of habitats.  In the Spring the South Downs come alive as birds claim their territories and look for a mate. The downs in the Kithurst Hill area are famous for the abundance of farmland birds many of which are in decline in other parts of the county.  We will look for Corn Bunting, Grey Partridge as well as commoner species such as Skylark, Yellowhammer and Linnet as well as pipits, finches and buntings. Birds of prey are a feature of this area too and we’ll scan the skies for Red Kite.  No previous knowledge needed, just enthusiasm. . | | |
| **Meeting point / Venue:** | The car park is located on the top of the downs adjacent to the South Downs Way. Access to the car park is off the B2139 Storrington to Amberley Road. From Storrington travel west about 2 miles and the access track to the car park is on your left (not well signposted!). This will lead you to a steep winding road that ends at the car park. Nearest postcode RH20 4HN. | | |
| **Other sites to be visited:** | The South Downs around Kithurst Hill. | | |
| **What to bring:** | * Binoculars * Appropriate footwear for walking in potential wet and muddy areas. * Appropriate clothing for weather conditions at time. * A field identification guide may be useful but not essential | | |
| **Other Information:** | Free car parking  There are no toilet facilities at this site.  Please may we ask that you take all packed lunch waste home with you. | | |
| **Public Transport:** | Contact Traveline for bus services at [www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk) | | |
| **Accessibility:** | We will be out for about 3 hours walking on rough tracks, which may be wet and slippery after rain. | | |