**COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**



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| **Course Title:** An Introduction to the Birds of Heathland | | | **Day/Date/Year:**  Friday 8May 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.  Summer is a special time on the heathlands of Sussex. These insect rich habitats are home to a number of birds many of which are only found amongst the gorse, heather and birch of the heaths. We will look (and listen) out for Tree Pipits, Woodlark and Redstart and hopefully should hear the distinctive call of the Cuckoo too. The Hobby, fresh in from Africa, may well be hunting for dragonflies around Old Lodge.  No previous knowledge needed, just enthusiasm. . | | |
| **Meeting point / Venue:** | The reserve is situated on the west side of the B2026 between Maresfield and Hartfield. There is a small car park with SWT nature reserve sign. The nearest postcode is TN22 3JD.  Approaching from Maresfield, just before the car park entrance there is a small white fingerboard sign to Old Lodge. **Do not take this track as it leads to a private residence. The car park is 100 metres further along on the left.** | | |
| **Other sites to be visited:** | Old Lodge  <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/visit/old-lodge> | | |
| **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:** | There is no public transport service to this reserve. | | |
| **Accessibility:** | We will be out for about 3 hours walking on rough tracks, which may be wet and slippery after rain. | | |