**COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**



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| **Course Title:** Beginners Birdwatching -Little Brown Jobs | | | **Day/Date/Year:**  Friday 11 October 2019 |
| **Start Time:** 10am | | **Finish Time:** 4pm | |
| **Course Tutor:** | Mike Russell | | |
| **Course description and subjects covered** | Not all birds have the decency to wear colourful, distinctive plumage! For those new to birdwatching it’s easy to dismiss them as ‘little brown jobs’ but with a bit of guidance these birds will soon become less daunting. Join Mike Russell for both indoor and outdoor sessions to look at some of these tricky birds.  The course will start in the Downs Barn where there will be an illustrated presentation giving you an overview of the various groups of birds that can be classed as ‘Little Brown Jobs’. You’ll learn information on identification, habits and calls.  The afternoon session will put the identification skills developed in the morning into practice in the field. We’ll find flocks of buntings, pipits, larks and finches and Mike will give you tips to help you untangle them.  No previous knowledge needed – just a general interest in birds. | | |
| **Meeting point / Venue address:** | The Downs Barn, Sompting Estate, via Lambleys Lane (BN14 9JX) north of the Sompting Bypass. (see attached information sheet from Sompting Estate).  Directions to the barn can be found on the courses page of the website. Please click the following link.  <https://www.somptingestate.com/courses> | | |
| **Other sites to be visited:** | N/A | | |
| **What to bring:** | Good walking shoes, light raincoat (in case!), packed lunch. Camera, binocular, identification books and notepad. | | |
| **Other Information:** | Drinks can be made in the Barn and there are toilet facilities. Car parking is a little way from the Barn. (see attached sheets from Sompting estate web site) | | |
| **Public Transport:** | Access not practicable from train, considerable walk. However instructions are on the directions sheet from Sompting Estate Website. | | |
| **Accessibility:** | Field component requires ability to walk at a gentle pace for  2-3 km in a couple of hours. It is not on a hardened path. | | |