**COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course Title:** An introduction to Waders (West Sussex) | **Day/Date/Year:** Friday 23 October 2020 |
| **Start Time:** 10am | **Finish Time**: 4pm |
| **Course Tutor:** | Mike Russell  |
| **Course description and subjects covered** | During the autumn the wetlands of the south coast become an important refuelling hub for flocks of waders. Many of these birds are passing through on their way further south while others are escaping the frozen north. Although the mudflats are filled with thousands of birds how many could you identify? Mike Russell will guide you through the identification of these waders. So if you’re new to birdwatching and are perplexed by plovers, need help separating your shanks or untangling your Knots this is the course for you. The day will start with an illustrated indoor session looking at waders in autumn and winter plumages. We will then head out to explore Pagham Harbour where we will look across mudflats and learn how to identify the many waders feeding here. This course is ideal for beginners to birdwatching. No previous knowledge or skills required, just enthusiasm! |
| **Meeting point/Venue address & nearest post code** | Meet at the Pagham Harbour Visitor Centre, Postcode: PO20 7NE.Directions: From the A27 at Chichester, take the B2145 south towards Selsey. After half a mile at the first roundabout, turn right continuing to follow the B2145 to Selsey (do NOT take the B2166 to Pagham village - the Visitor Centre is on the opposite side of the Harbour). Continue along the B2145 for 5 miles through the long villages of Hunston and Sidlesham. On leaving Sidlesham, the speed limit increases from 30 mph to 50 mph - the turning into the Visitor Centre car park is in half a mile on the left-hand side, and is signed.  |
| **Other sites to be visited:** | Pagham Harbour Nature Reserve.  |
| **What to bring:** | Suitable clothing and footwear for the time of year. Packed Lunch.Binoculars and a telescope if you have one. A field guide might be useful though leader will have one available  |
| **Other Information:**  | Toilets and a café are located within the Discovery Centre building.Please may we ask that you take all packed lunch waste home with you.  |
| **Public Transport:**  | There are bus services from Chichester to Selsey which stop outside the reserve. Contact Traveline for timetable at [www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk)  |
| **Accessibility:**  | The visitors centre is fully accessible. The outdoor part of the course will on mostly flat tracks which may be muddy after rain.  |