

Central Rivers Bird Festival: 19-27 May 2012

Nine days of great bird walks in the Central Rivers, taking you to new experiences (your first dawn chorus, or your first close encounter with an owl?), new places (behind the scenes at several top spots not normally open to the public) and new menus (stay and enjoy a *Taste of Staffordshire* after many of the walks on offer)

Date	AM	PM	Evening
Sat, 19 th May	7.30am. Start the festival with an early morning bird walk at <u>the NMA</u> with Lichfield RSPB. Leaders: Bob Russon, Richard Thorpe & Jean Williams (RSPB). (Easy)	2pm. Wildlife Watch group's bird walk for children and families at <u>the NMA</u> with Lichfield RSPB. Leaders: Jean Williams & Bob Russon (RSPB). (Easy)	
Sun, 20 th May <i>B-Day: three great bird walks in one day; catch them all, if you can!</i>	6.30am. Family Dawn Chorus Walk at <u>RSPB Middleton Lakes</u> with optional breakfast sandwiches afterwards at the Courtyard Café. Leader: Chris Edwards (RSPB). (Moderate) 10am. A spring stroll at <u>Croxall Lakes</u> to brush up on your ID skills at this wetland oasis. Leader: Scott Petrek (Staffs Wildlife Trust, SWT). (Moderate)	2pm. Borderline birding bonanza at Catton Estate in South Derbyshire. Visit this private estate with Reg Simms, retired estate worker and lifetime estate resident. (Moderate). Meet at...??!!	
Mon, 21 st May			6pm. Beginner's bird walk, with the chance to dine at <i>The Waterfront</i> afterwards. Meet at <u>Barton Marina</u> car park. Leader: Guy Corbett-Marshall (SWT) (Easy)
Tues, 22 nd May		2pm. 'Birdy' Wildlife Walk at <u>the NMA</u> . Leader: Richard Thorpe (The NMA). (Easy)	7pm. Bird walk at <u>Branston Water Park</u> with the chance to get up close with a local owl! Leader: Dave Scattergood (Kingsley Bird & Falconry Centre). (Moderate)
Wed, 23 rd May			6pm. Birding off the

			beaten track at <u>Elford Quarry</u> (off the Elford to Fisherwick road). Leader: Guy Corbett-Marshall (SWT). (Moderate)
Thurs, 24 th May		6pm. A wild walk on the Tameside, starting from Tameside LNR's entrance on Fazeley Road, Tamworth. Leader: Ian Rutherford (Friends of Tameside LNR). (Easy)	
Fri, 25 th May			6pm. Urban treasures bird walk at <u>Trent Washlands</u> , Burton upon Trent, starting from the car park at the end of Watson Street. Leader: Guy Corbett-Marshall (SWT). (Moderate)
Sat, 26 th May	11am – 4pm. Wild About Tamworth in the <u>Tamworth Castle</u> grounds: crafts, displays, wildlife gardening, photo competition and experts; all with a bird-related theme! (SWT)		
Sun, 27 th May	9am. Behind the scenes bird walk at <u>Newbold Quarry</u> ; entrance off the slip road between Barton-u-Needwood and A38. Leader: Dave Scattergood (SWT). (Moderate)		

- 1 Walks will be led by charity staff/volunteers;
- 2 Suggested donation for each event to be £2-50 per head; children, no donation proposed. Proceeds to charity by each Leader's name.
- 3 Each event to be up to two hours in duration and either 'easy' or 'moderate', based on surface of paths and other terrain used
- 4 First-Aider present at all events, or each one risk assessed in advance. If no first-aider present, this is announced at the start, with the option for people to leave then. (All leaders to carry mobile phones)