



# Programme of Events

## 2025

Date	Day	Venue
04/01/2025	Sat	<b>Rye Harbour NR ESx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet in car park at 9.30 a.m. (GR 189/TQ941189 and <a href="#">///gadget.converter.fluid</a> ). NR has cafe, toilets (also near car park), 4 hides and good paths. <i>Electric mobility scooters available for hire</i> . Exposed estuarine & coastal habitat; waders, ducks and seabirds. Leader: Mark Wright
08/01/2025	Wed	<b>River Adur walk at Shoreham, West Sussex:</b> Meet at 10 am (GR TQ210049 and <a href="#">///asserts.zips.reseller</a> ) in the Adur Memorial Recreation Ground. (Toilets there) A two mile walk beside the river to the Toll Bridge and return. This is quite a wide flat path but shared with loose dogs, walkers and cyclists. It can also be muddy, so good winter footwear and warm clothing is essential. At the end of the walk there is the Ropetackle coffee shop or you can visit other birding areas nearby, such as Widewater, and/or Shoreham Fort, (car park charges) to see if the Purple Sandpipers might be showing. NOTE: Cars departing the site towards Worthing will need to turn around at the A259/A283 roundabout at Ropetackle. Cars arriving from the north/east will have to proceed to the A259 roundabout (Shell garage on left) to make a 180° turn to approach from the west. Public transport. Shoreham by Sea railway station (20 minute walk). Coastliner bus 700 and the Brighton & Hove bus 2 route also stop nearby. Leader: Tony Benton. Audrey will be attending (07511 423687) so contact her with any queries.
12/01/2025	Sun	<b>Pagham Harbour RSPB WSx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet at RSPB Pagham Harbour Visitor Centre at 09:30hrs (GR 197/SZ857966 and <a href="#">///measuring.sisters.ringside</a> ) access from B2145 west of Sidlesham. Public transport: Stagecoach route 51 link service from Chichester bus station to Selsey stops outside NR entrance. NR has some snacks/drinks, toilets, a hide and good paths. Estuarine habitat; waders, ducks and seabirds. Leader: Andrew House
18/01/2025	Sat	<b>West Rise Marsh ESx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet in the carpark on Sevenoaks Road at 09.30 a.m. (GR 199/TQ625024 and <a href="#">///give.august.also</a> ). From A27 take A22 turn L onto B2191 then shortly R onto Sevenoaks Rd, car park on R. Wellington Boots advised. Wetland habitat and birds. Leader: Steve Hewitt.
25/01/2025	Sat	<b>SOS Conference (booking required). Oathall Community College,</b> Appledore Gardens Lindfield, West Sussex. RH16 2AQ ( <a href="#">///icons.bombard.height</a> ) a short walk from Haywards Heath railway Station)
08/02/2025	Sat	<b>Dungeness area &amp; RSPB reserve Kent:</b> All day (bring lunch plus RSPB membership card or entry fee) approx 3 miles walk (in phases). Meet at Old Lighthouse car park at 9.30 a.m. (GR 189/TR088168 and <a href="#">///crowd.vowed.shepherdess</a> ). Will start with short sea-watch and check of Observatory area and/or 'Fishing Boats' (shingle terrain) before moving on to RSPB reserve. Reserve has visitor centre, toilets, hides and good paths. Leaders: Derek Barber & Mike Scott-Ham
09/02/2025	Sun	<b>Arun Valley &amp; The Burgh WSx:</b> All Day (4.5 miles in the am and less than 2 miles in the pm). Meet at The Triangle car park, Peppering Lane, (GR 197/TQ041095 and <a href="#">///slime.collision.bombard</a> ) at 10:00 a.m. Checking out the Arun Valley for Bewick's Swan, Siberian Chiffchaff and Cattle Egret in the morning then a stroll around The Burgh for raptors, Owls etc. Leader: Stuart Malcolm

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11/02/2025	Tue	<b>Warnham LNR:</b> Meet outside in the courtyard at 10.00 hrs (GR 187/TQ167132 ///nurses.fortunate.flight) when the reserve opens. A small entry fee is payable. This half day walk is along flat gritted paths (prob. two/three miles) but will be muddy in places so good walking boots are recommended or even wellingtons. There are several hides along the route. Snacks and drinks are available, as are toilets. Leader: Reserve volunteer. A small donation to the reserve would be appreciated, which will be collected at start, as we are using their staff.
23/02/2025	Sun	<b>Chichester Marina WSx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet at Chichester Marina at the right hand side of the entrance car park (small charge) at 10.00 a.m. (approach road from A286) (GR 197/SU835010 and ///rooting.locker.eyepieces. Walk to Westlands along Canal, Marina Channel and Birdham Pool, returning via Lock and Hide at Marina. There are toilets on this walk! Leader: Kerry Jackson
05/03/2025	Wed	<b>Pett Level:</b> Meet at 10.30 on Pett Level Road at 'Toot Rock', just east of Pett Level village (GR 189/TQ894139 and ///undercuts.stuffy.flocking), not the layby further on by the pools. A walk of about 3 miles along the sea wall and back, returning about 2-2.30pm. The tide will be ideal to see a good variety of waders and offshore seabirds, with plenty of interest on the inland lagoons and fields too. No public toilets, but we will break for refreshments at the eastern end, where there is a cafe. Telescopes will be very useful. Level walking on a good path but a small flight of steps to climb. Warm clothing advised even if not a cold day, but wellies not needed. Leader: Chris Barfield (07908 633909).
08/03/2025	Sat	<b>River Ouse Valley ESx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet at NT Monk's House car park, Rodmell (///robot.waking.cascade) at 1.30 p.m. Walk along the river until dusk looking for raptors, owls and birds coming to roost. Leader: Josh MacCallum-Stewart.
29/03/2025	Sat	<b>Newhaven Tidemills ESx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet at 8.30 a.m. at Buckle car park, Marine Parade, Seaford. (GR 198/TV469997 and ///edge.shows.eruptions). Toilets at car park. Shingle or grass paths (may be muddy when wet). Coastal and river habitat; incoming and outgoing migrants. Leader: Neil Greenaway
05/04/2025	Sat	<b>Rye Harbour NR; ESx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). Meet in car park at 9.30 a.m. (GR 189/TQ941189 and ///gadget.converter.fluid). NR has cafe, toilets (also near car park), 4 hides and good paths. <i>Electric mobility scooters available for hire.</i> Exposed estuarine & coastal habitat, waders, ducks and seabirds. Leader: Mark Wright
11/04/2025	Fri	<b>Steyning Downland Scheme: Steyning, West Sussex.</b> Meet at 09.00 hrs by the main bus stop, half way up the High Street (What3Words ///country.unwell.flexibly), opposite the clock tower. There are two well signed car parks which can be used (with toilets). The walk does have one uphill and a corresponding downhill, but relatively short and at an easy pace, and the grid ref for the start of the walk is TQ172115/ What3Words///verges.rush.firebird. Alan Swetman is leading this three hour walk and suggests a 20 minute coffee break around half way. (Bring your own drink) Spring bird arrivals especially Nightingales will be looked for. Good underfoot, either on made up paths or grass, which might be slippery after rain. Leader Alan Swetman (07472 139927)
13/04/2025	Sun	<b>Old Lodge NR, Ashdown Forest ESx.</b> Half day (under 3 miles, undulating terrain with 1 steep descent/ascent). Meet in Reserve car park at 9.00 a.m. (GR 188/TQ469307 and ///strongman.takeovers.shin). Parking charge payable by phone or app; no facilities. Heathland habitat and birds. Leader: Mark Wright
19/04/2025	Sat	<b>SOS Annual General Meeting</b> Start: 14.30, <b>Adastra Hall</b> , 31 Keymer Road, Hassocks BN6 8QH (///thumps.explorer.emotional) this is short walk from Hassocks railway station.

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26/04/2025	Sat	<b>Pulborough Brooks RSPB WSx:</b> Half day (under 3 miles). RSPB membership cards required or entrance/parking fee. Meet at 9.45 a.m. outside entrance to Visitors Centre (GR TQ059163 and <a href="#">///motels.lizards.splashes</a> ). (Compass Bus 100 Horsham rail station - Pulborough rail station - Henfield - Burgess Hill stops outside the reserve.) <i>This outing may be particularly suitable for those wanting to bring younger members of the family. Electric mobility scooters available for hire.</i> The reserve has toilets, cafe, shop, and hides. Leader: Gary Trew
27/04/2025	Sun	<b>Selsey seawatch/Church Norton WSx:</b> Half day (stationary seawatch and later walk under 1 mile). Meet at 8.30 a.m. in the Selsey seafront car park (toilets) at southern end of B2145. (GR 197/SZ851923 and <a href="#">///clubs.twists.guesswork</a> ) for seawatch. Afterwards short drive to Church Norton (Pagham Harbour). Leader: Andrew House
04/05/2025	Sun	<b>Seaford seawatch ESx:</b> Half day. Meet at 7 a.m. on the beach just to the right of the Splash Point groyne (as seen from the bathing huts); (GR 198/TV488982 and <a href="#">///spout.shunning.widgets</a> ). Telescope and deck chair useful, warm clothes advisable! Leader: Simon Linington
13/05/2025	Tue	<b>Amberley Wildbrooks SWT Reserve.</b> TQ 025161. Meet at 10am by reserve entrance on Brook Lane, Coldwaltham, small area for roadside parking. What3words: <a href="#">///cement.above.cyber</a> . This walk will be on rough ground which can be marshy, so good footwear is recommended. There will be three stiles to cross. Good combination of waders, raptors and breeding migrants. A circular walk of two to three miles. Bring refreshments if you want to drive to Rackham Viewpoint in the afternoon. Leader Norma Park (07582 431109)
25/05/2025	Sun	<b>Black Down WSx:</b> Meet at 9.00 a.m. at the small car park at the far (east) end of Tennyson's Lane on the sharp bend (GR SU922306 and <a href="#">///rare.soils.perused</a> ). From Haslemere (accessed from A286 and A287) leave on B2131, turn right up Haste Hill, follow onto Tennyson's Lane. All Day (bring lunch!). Leader: Paul Matson
30/05/2025	Fri	<b>Birds of the Evening at Lavington Common, WSx:</b> Meet at 8.45 p.m. at Lavington Common car park (GR 197/SU949186 and <a href="#">///flag.removable.outhouse</a> ). (Torch recommended plus insect repellent.) Leader: Alan Perry
06/06/2025	Fri	<b>Birds of the Evening at Ashdown Forest ESx:</b> Meet at 8.45 Long U Car Park, (GR 188/TQ427310 and <a href="#">///available.chestnuts.access</a> ) on the left of A22 1 mile before Wych Cross from the direction of Nutley. (Please check SOS website beforehand as meeting point may change depending on bird sightings.) Parking charge via app or phone. Short walk (Torch and insect repellent recommended). Leaders: Bob Hastings & Martin Jeffree.
11/06/2025	Wed	<b>Burton &amp; Chingford Ponds, 197/SU979181</b> Meet in the SWT car park at 09.30 (What3words: <a href="#">///spillage.licks.disposal</a> ). A circular walk covering ponds, wetland, mixed woodland and heathland on this very attractive reserve. A good range of birds. Distance about three miles over some mixed terrain so good footwear is recommended. Toilets in Petworth car park. Leader Hugh Horne 07721 588031
14/06/2025	Sat	<b>Old Lodge NR, Ashdown Forest ESx:</b> Meet in Reserve car park at 9.00 a.m. (GR 188/TQ469307 and <a href="#">///strongman.takeovers.shin</a> ). Parking charge via app or phone. No facilities. Heathland habitat, approx. 2 miles, with 1 steep descent/ascent. Half day. Leader: Mark Wright
July TBA	TBA	<b>Mid Week Walk</b> see website for details <a href="http://www.sos.org.uk/events">www.sos.org.uk/events</a>
12/07/2025	Sat	<b>Rye Harbour NR ESx:</b> Meet in car park at 9.30 a.m. (GR 189/TQ941189 and <a href="#">///gadget.converter.fluid</a> ). NR has cafe, toilets and good paths; exposed estuarine & coastal habitat, waders, ducks and seabirds. All day. Leader: Mark Wright
August TBA	TBA	<b>Sheepcote Valley, Brighton</b> details top follow Leader: ?????

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10/08/2025	Sun	<b>Pagham Harbour RSPB WSx:</b> Meet at RSPB Pagham Harbour Visitor Centre at 09:00hrs (GR 197/SZ857966 and ///measuring.sisters.ringside) access from B2145 west of Sidlesham. Public transport: Stagecoach route 51 link service from Chichester bus station to Selsey stops outside visitor centre. NR has some snacks/drinks, toilets and good paths. Estuarine habitat. Half day. Leader: Leader: a volunteer at RSPB Pagham Harbour
31/08/2025	Sun	<b>Whitbread Hollow, Beachy Head ESx:</b> Meet at 9.00 a.m. at Dukes Drive, Holywell corner at western end of Eastbourne promenade. (GR 199/TV601972 and ///tester.petty.rates). Access: street parking; Public Transport: Southern Rail to Eastbourne Station; Stagecoach route 3 from station to Foot of Beachy Head/St Bede's School. Chalk downland coastal habitat. Half day looking for outgoing migrants. Leader: Mark Wright
September TBA	TBA	<b>Mid Week Walk</b> see website for details <a href="http://www.sos.org.uk/events">www.sos.org.uk/events</a>
07/09/2025	Sun	<b>Thorney Island circuit WSx:</b> Park and meet at junction of Thorney Rd and Thornham Lane at 9.15 a.m. (GR 197/SU757049 and ///orange.loose.care). All day looking for waders, raptors and Autumn migrants; circular 7 mile walk but may be altered according to weather conditions. No facilities, exposed: check weather forecast for clothing; bring lunch & water. Leader: Pete Hughes
14/09/2025	Sun	<b>Arlington Reservoir ESx:</b> Meet at 09.15 at the reservoir car park (GR TQ527074 ///instructs.belonged.gadiator). Public transport: Southern Rail to Berwick station (half mile south of reservoir); by car: reservoir car park (charge) or layby outside. Toilets; cafe. Approx 2 mile circular walk around reservoir and a short loop across fields (grazing animals possible) and over R. Cuckmere. Half day. Leader: Mark Wright
October TBA	TBA	<b>Mid Week Walk</b> see website for details <a href="http://www.sos.org.uk/events">www.sos.org.uk/events</a>
04/10/2025	Sat	<b>Beachy Head (Birling Gap/Shooters Bottom) ESx:</b> Meet at sea side of National Trust café at 9.00 (GR TV554960 and ///tasteful.respect.improve) accessible off A259 from East Dean on Beachy Head road. Parking at NT car park (charge for non-members). Chalk downland coastal habitat. Half Day looking for outgoing migrants. Leader: Mark Wright
12/10/2025	Sun	<b>Cissbury Ring WSx:</b> Meet at gates on N side of Cissbury Ring, road approach from Nepcote Lane, Findon, (GR 198/TQ139084 and ///marine.amphibian.servers) at 9.30 a.m. Parking along the track here usually possible but an alternative is to use the car park signed from A24 Findon and take path to left and walk up to the meeting point. Public Transport: Stagecoach route 1 from Worthing station. Chalk downland, some ascents/descents can be slippery when wet. Half day looking for outgoing migrants. Leader: Mark Wright
November TBA	TBA	<b>Mid Week Walk</b> see website for details <a href="http://www.sos.org.uk/events">www.sos.org.uk/events</a>
8/3/2025	Sat	<b>Conservation Work: Charleston Reedbed ESx. Meet 10am Friston Forest car park (GR 199/TQ517002 and ///foresight.encoded.inflation). Contact Natasha Stonestreet n.stonestreet@hotmail.com for more details.</b>
23/11/2025	Sun	<b>Selsey/Church Norton:</b> Meet at 9.00 a.m. in the Selsey seafront car park at southern end of B2145. (GR 197/SZ851923 and ///clubs.twists.guesswork). Seawatch and afterwards to Church Norton (Pagham Harbour). Half day. Leader: Andrew House.
07/12/2025	Sat	<b>Pulborough Brooks RSPB Reserve WSx:</b> Meet at 9.45 a.m. outside entrance to Visitors Centre (GR TQ059163 and ///motels.lizards.splashes). Half day (RSPB membership cards required or entrance/parking fee). If parking, please show cards and give registration numbers to the leader. Compass Bus 100 Horsham rail station - Pulborough rail station - Henfield - Burgess Hill stops outside the reserve. <i>This outing may be particularly suitable for those wanting to bring younger members of the family and the reserve has toilets and cafe.</i> Leader: Gary Trew

Date	Day	Venue
December TBA	TBA	<b>Mid Week Walk</b> see website for details <a href="http://www.sos.org.uk/events">www.sos.org.uk/events</a>
13/12/2025	Sat	<b>Dungeness RSPB Kent:</b> Meet at 9.30 a.m. at the reserve's ARC Car Park (GR TR062197 and ///blurs.wash.towns) and opposite main entrance to reserve (membership card or entrance fee required for subsequent entry to main reserve). Reserve has visitor centre, facilities and good paths. All day (bring lunch). Leader: Mark Wright

Locations GR: OS sheet number Grid Reference ///: [www.what3words.com](http://www.what3words.com) and mobile app

More details of the events listed below can be found on our website [www.sos.org.uk/events](http://www.sos.org.uk/events)

### The Birdwatcher's Code of Conduct:

- The welfare of birds must come first.
- Habitat protection – we must ensure that our activities do not cause damage.
- Keep disturbance to a minimum.
- Rare breeding birds need protection.
- Rare migrants or vagrants must not be harassed.
- Bird protection laws are now embodied in the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1982.
- Respect the rights of landowners.
- You can help to add to tomorrow's knowledge by sending bird records to your county bird recorder.
- Birdwatching abroad: well behaved birdwatchers abroad can be important ambassadors for bird protection.

### NOTES

- Risk assessments for the walks can be found on the website [www.sos.org.uk/risk-assessments-for-walks](http://www.sos.org.uk/risk-assessments-for-walks) please familiarise yourself with these as they will provide key information relating to any concerns you may have in being able to participate.
- Early starts on field outings take advantage of birds at their most active time, and when fewer people are about e.g. at migration points such as Beachy Head little may be seen later in the day.
- Wellington boots are recommended on some outings, otherwise waterproof walking boots. The weather may change during all day outings – be prepared. Where lunch is required, this is stated.
- All day outings usually finish mid-afternoon. Lunch will be eaten en route at a suitable stop. During hot weather, bring drinks and a snack even on half day walks.
- Dogs and birds do not mix – no dogs on field outings please.
- Young people under the age of 18 should be accompanied by a responsible adult. This is to comply with SOS's Safeguarding Policy [www.sos.org.uk/our-policies](http://www.sos.org.uk/our-policies)
- While every effort is made to ensure there is adequate parking, members are requested to park with due consideration to local residents or other road users. Do not leave anything valuable in your car.
- The map references relate to O.S. 1:50,000 series.
- Please inform the leader if you are leaving the group before the end of the walk.
- Passengers accept lifts in private cars at their own risk.

- Our walks leaders carry basic first aid kits should they be required. This does not imply that the leaders are qualified to use them but are available for participants to access.
- The dates of the events listed above were correct at the time of publication, however in certain instances, they may change. SOS retain the right to do this and will not be liable in the event of changes. The most up to date list is at [www.sos.org.uk/events](http://www.sos.org.uk/events)
- In extreme weather conditions the walk may be cancelled. Please check on our website [www.sos.org.uk/events](http://www.sos.org.uk/events) or contact the leader or Mark Wright (07793 416375) for weekend walks or Kerry Jackson (07977 907279 or [kerryjackson21@aol.com](mailto:kerryjackson21@aol.com)) for mid-week walks if in doubt.

### **SOS Contacts**

- PRESIDENT Chris Corrigan
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