

Essex Field Club Programme for 2017

Botany Group – Contact Ken Adams 020 8508 7863

Essex Moth Group – contact Dougal Urquhart 01206 383868 email: dougal.urquhart@essex.gov.uk

Fungus Group – contact Tony Boniface 01245 266316

Geology Group – contact Peter Allen 01992 630661

Herpetofauna Group – contact Ian Bradley email: essex_arg@hotmail.com

INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE JOINING THE FIELD MEETINGS OF THE ESSEX FIELD CLUB

1. Please confirm that you are coming to Essex Field Club meetings by emailing or telephoning the leader a few days beforehand to check for details; and let the leader know if you later find you can't attend so we don't wait needlessly, or if you need to leave early, to save us registering you as lost and possibly injured.
2. Health and safety of participants is an Essex Field Club priority, but you have some duty of care for your own safety and that of others during a meeting. The leader will brief you on the day about any particular hazards of the site known to them; please make sure you listen.
3. Do not attempt a walk (which may cover several miles) unless you are fit and able to do so and be prepared for normal footpath hazards. Check when booking if doubtful.
4. EFC Field meetings, unless otherwise stated, are led by members working in an amateur and volunteer capacity on behalf of fellow members and others in the Group. Meeting leaders are not expected to administer first aid, or to provide first aid equipment.
5. On meetings which include a picnic, we recommend you bring your own wipes or water to clean your hands before eating, and a plastic bag for sitting on which can then be used to carry waste home.
6. If you have a medical condition such as angina, a pacemaker, diabetes, blackouts or allergy to stings etc. that may give rise to a medical emergency during a meeting, you must inform the leader 2 days in advance to see if there might be a problem. N. B. Mobile phone contact to emergency services may not be available in remote areas. (A fuller version is on our website at www.essexfieldclub.org.uk/portal/p/Meetings+guidance)

For all geology field meetings, it is essential that you book ahead and that you read and agree to the rules and advice outlined on the Essex Rock and Mineral Society web site (www.erms.org). Copies can be supplied on request from Peter Allen (01992 630661; peter.allen6@virgin.net).

January Sun 1st 2017 10:00	Basildon Natural History Society. Annual walk around Marks Hill and Hoppit Shaw. Meet at 10:00 am at Delmores car park SS16 6LR	Leader: Booking not necessary.
February Sat 11th 2017 11:30	Basildon Natural History Society - Birdwatch. Two Tree Island. Meet at first car park on the left after crossing the creek bridge. Nearest postcode SS9 2GB	Leader: Booking not necessary
February Sat 11th 2017 10:30	Essex Field Club with Essex Rock and Mineral Society. Globe Pit, Little Thurrock (subject to confirmation from Natural England) Check beforehand with Peter that visit is confirmed. Site clearance and observation of Grays Brickearth. Hard hats and gloves recommended. Tools provided but please bring secateurs, loppers, etc. if possible. Meet at corner of Newburgh Road and Rectory Road	Leader: Peter Allen (01 992 630661) [078 31 004 303 - use on day only] Check beforehand with Peter that visit is confirmed
February Sun 12th 2017 10:30-17:00	Essex Moth Group annual meeting. At the Green Centre, Wat Tyler C.P. Lunch and refreshments £7 on the day. Please book. Guest speakers, slide shows, specimen displays.	Leader: Essential to contact Peter Harvey or Dougal Urquhart if attending: Email: grayspeterharvey@gmail.com or dougal.urquhart@essex.gov.uk
February Sat 18th 2017 10:00-16:00	Essex Gem and Mineral Show. Organised by the Essex Rock and Mineral Society. North Romford Community Centre, Clockhouse Lane, Collier Row RM5 3QT. Visitors welcome. Free parking but come early.	
March Sat 11th 2017 14:00-17:00	Essex Field Club Spring Meeting and AGM. Hall of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Melbourne Ave. North side Chelmsford CM1 3DU. TL689,083	
March Sat 18th 2017 9:30 - 16:30	FSC Course: Identifying Spring Moths . Field Studies Centre - Flatford Mill Using live moth traps (set the evening before the course in different habitats) to catch a sample of the moths on the wing overnight. Once the traps are emptied and the animals safely stored in plastic pots, You will be introduced to the challenges of identifying macro-moths (the larger ones!) down to species. Book via FSC http://www.field-studies-council.org	Leader: Edward Jackson
April Sun 23rd 2017 11:00	Essex Field Club with Essex Rock and Mineral Society and the Geologists Assoc. Walton-on-the-Naze. Red Crag and London Clay Meet at the new Naze Visitor Centre near the Naze Tower	Leader: Gerald Lucy (07512 156579)
April Thu 27th 2017 11:00	Botany Group. East Mersea for sea wall and saltings. Meet in car park corner of Ivy Lane. TM0665,1531.	Leader: Ken Adams. Please book: 020 8508 7863
May Sat 6th 2017 11:00	General Meeting. Rowney Wood. A large ancient oxlip wood which was planted up with conifers in the 1950s but has now to a large degree been returned to native deciduous by the Forestry Commission. In need of some up-to-date survey for most groups. Park and meet in the layby near Carver Barracks at TL566343.	Leader: Peter Harvey, email grayspeterharvey@gmail.com Tel: 01375 371571
May Thu 11th 2017 evening	Basildon Natural History Society: Members only: Fingringhoe nightingales. Evening Guided walk, about 1 mile, to hear these amazing birds. Meet at Visitor Centre, Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve, South Green Road, Fingringhoe, CO5 7DN. Car sharing encouraged. Cost £6, must be booked and paid for in advance via Meetings Secretary as group size is limited, closing date 12 April. No charge for early arrival at Fingringhoe	Leader: Contact Meetings Secretary: Mavis Waylett, 01268 544856
May Sat 13th 2017 11:00	General Meeting. Wallasea Island. Come and help record the old and newly developing habitats at this extensive site. The Wallasea Island Wild Coast project is a landmark conservation and engineering scheme for the 21st century, on a scale never before attempted in the UK and the largest of its type in Europe. Meet at Grapnell's Farm, Wallasea Island, Creeksea Ferry Road, Rochford, Essex SS4 2HD grid ref: TQ942947	Leader: Peter Harvey, email grayspeterharvey@gmail.com Tel: 01375 371571
May Tue 16th 2017 10.30am	General meeting: Chatham Green. Meet in car park at CM3 3FE. Monads TL7116 and TL7115. The Chatham Green Project is a conservation and education initiative on 400 acres of farmland in the heart of Essex. There is a 40-acre conservation and education site intended to be a biodiversity haven. The site has one pond, old woodland and extensive new tree plantations, grass meadow, ancient hedgerows and the working farm has large field margins.	Leader: Please contact Peter Harvey if attending: 01375 371571 Email: grayspeterharvey@gmail.com
May Thu 18th 2017 11:00	Botany Group. Strethall Field TL48-9,41 for rare poppies, fumatories and meadow rue. Meet Howe Wood Cross Roads. Strethall. TL489,403.	Leader: Ken Adams. Please book: 020 8508 7863 Mobile: 07773 492260

May Sat 20th 2017 9:30	Geological Group. Bulls Lodge Quarry, Boreham, Chelmsford, London Clay, Kesgrave Gravels, Lowestoft Till. Please note corrected date. Our annual visit to this working quarry. Thick Boulder Clay deposited by an ice sheet contains derived fossils and erratics. The underlying Kesgrave Thames river gravels contain boulders from as far away as North Wales and south-west England and Hertfordshire Puddingstone. Meet 9.30am in the access road at the North Gate entrance to Police Air Support Unit by the USAF War memorial, off Cranham Road (TL 740127) or Sat Nav lat & long 51.786308, 0.522587 or postcode CM3 3BB is 400m east of gate. Turn in and park as near to the gate as possible, keeping to the left. If no room, stop in the farm entrance opposite. NOTE: this is a different meeting point from that used for all former visits. Wear strong boots, hard hat & hi viz jacket. No under-18s.	Leader: Peter Allen (01 992 630661). Essential to advise Peter Allen if attending in case of late change of details. 01 992 630 661 (any time). 07 831 004 303 (use only on May 20)
May Sun 21st 2017 13:00	Cancelled. CANCELLED	Leader: Leader: Ian Tittley Please book: 01227 365671 Mobile: 0781 829 2936
June Sat 3rd 2017 11:00	Botany Group. Harlow, Stort Valley marshes. Meet Burnt Mill Lock car park, Harlow. TL445,112 . CM20 2PS.	Leader: Leader: Ken Adams. Please book: 020 8508 7863 Mobile: 07773 492260
June Sat 3rd 2017 9:45 - 16:00	FSC Course: FOCUS ON MICRO-MOTHS OF EPPING FOREST. Field Studies Centre - Epping Forest This course is aimed at anyone with an interest in moths. If you've already taken an interest in the larger moths the course will help you extend into the smaller species, but with excellent books now available it's possible to start off with micro-moths, many of which can be found by day. Book via FSC http://www.field-studies-council.org	Leader: Martin Harvey
June Thu 8th 2017 10:30	Botany Group. Meet TQ682822, W side of Stanford-le-Hope railway station on Fenchurch-Southend line via Grays, Park in nearby streets, Packed lunch.	Leader: Mary Smith book on 01708 228921, mobile on day 07903 052095.
June Sat 10th 2017 11:00	Botany Group. Burnham -on-Crouch. Monads TQ95-6,97. Meet Dammer Wick Farm, Marsh Road. TQ962,969 CMO8NB.	Leader: Leader: Marion Miller Mobile: 07922034398
June Tue 13th 2017 10:30	Botany Group. TQ6883 currently has 6 records, from long ago, maybe before the town of Stanford-le-Hope was built. So let us go there to see what we can find. Mainly suburban, with A13 if we feel brave enough. Railway too, but hard to access! Meeting point the small roundabout at TQ6869,8305. Car parking in nearby roads. Bring lunch.	Leader: Mary Smith book on 01708 228921, mobile on day 07903 052095.
June Sat 17th 2017 11:00	General Meeting. Noakes Grove Nature Reserve, Redgates Lane, Swards End, TL 571 388; Meet in Car Park at reserve. Map at www.organic-countryside.co.uk Organic Countryside website. Packed Lunch.	Leader: David Corke 01799599576, Mobile on day 07583076790. Email david@corke.biz
June Sat 17th 2017 9:30 - 16:30	FSC Course: Identifying Summer Moths. Field Studies Centre - Flatford Mill We'll be using live moth traps (set the evening before the course in different habitats) to catch a sample of the moths on the wing overnight. Once the traps are emptied and the animals safely stored in plastic pots, we'll introduce you to the fascinating challenges of identifying macro-moths (the larger ones!) down to species, wherever possible. Book via FSC http://www.field-studies-council.org	Leader: Edward Jackson
June Wed 21st 2017 19:15 for 19:30	Basildon Natural History Society & Wickford Wildlife Society. Midsummer Day Walk: Meet at Greyhound PH, Maggie Lane, Little Warley, Brentwood CM13 3DZ. Parking at PH allowed if refreshments are to be bought after walk.	
June Sat 24th 2017 10:30	General Meeting, Friends of the Flitch Way and Associated Woodlands with EFC. Dunmow Cutting and board walk, map references TL 6094 2146 (Buttleys Lane) to TL 6230 2161 (Dunmow bypass). Parking is very limited and only a few spaces are available down Buttleys Lane so it is best if people car share. Alternative parking: * TL610 211. Rest area off southern carriageway of A120 between Dunmow South (B1008) and Dunmow west (B1256) junctions. You can climb the gate and to Buttleys Lane track, over the A120 bridge which leads to Dunmow Cutting. * TL 615 219. Tesco car park in Dunmow. Walk along B1256 pavement towards Bishops Stortford and then turn left down Buttleys Lane. * TL 603 213 High Cross Lane East car park (limited spaces). Walk along the Flitch Way bridle path east towards Great Dunmow (signposted National Cycle Network 16) this will lead you to the junction with Buttleys Lane * TL 611 217 Long layby on the B1256 between Buttleys Lane and the Tesco roundabout.	Leader: John Cooke: Email: jhc@johocooke.plus.com; Phone 01708 223477; Mobile on day 0794 1507549.
July Sat 1st 2017 11.00am	General meeting. Twinsteadhall Wood, an ancient woodland with a good number of veteran pollards on the wood bank boundaries, numerous ponds etc. Parking at surfaced timber yard TL858355, accessed along a short surfaced track from Lorkins Lane, turn onto track at TL861354.	Leader: Please contact Peter Harvey if attending: 01375 371571 Email: grayspeterharvey@gmail.com
July Tue 4th 2017 10:30	Botany Group & LNHS. Stow Maries Marshes (N side of Crouch). Meet Wickford Station (from Liverpool Str.) Cars needed. TQ745,936. SS12 OAD.	Leader: Leader: Tim Pyner Please book: 01702 580402. Mobile: 07516 812404.
July Fri 7th 2017 9:30-17:00	FSC Course: Identifying Moths and Butterflies. Field Studies Centre - Flatford Mill. A weekend introducing the identification and natural history of one of the most attractive insect groups, using only live trapping techniques. Working through the moth catches in the mornings will be followed by butterfly identification in the afternoons. Local species include pine and privet hawk moths and white admiral and purple hairstreak butterflies. Book via FSC http://www.field-studies-council.org	Leader: Sheila Wright
July Sat 8th 2017 10:00	Basildon Natural History Society: Butterfly Safari. Meet at 10:00 at One Tree Hill Car Park	
July Sat 15th 2017 11:00	General Meeting. Wallasea Island. Come and help record the old and newly developing habitats at this extensive site. The Wallasea Island Wild Coast project is a landmark conservation and engineering scheme for the 21st century, on a scale never before attempted in the UK and the largest of its type in Europe. Meet at Grapnell's Farm, Wallasea Island, Creeksea Ferry Road, Rochford, Essex SS4 2HD grid ref: TQ942947	Leader: Peter Harvey, email grayspeterharvey@gmail.com Tel: 01375 371571

July Sat 22nd 2017 9:00 - mid-day	Geological Group. Highwood Quarry, Easton Park Estate, Dunmow, London Clay, Kesgrave Gravels, Lowestoft Till Hard hats and hi-vis jackets necessary (limited number will be available on day) Meet at SMC Quarry access Road, off B1256, east of A120. (turn off between Takeley and Dunmow)	Leader: Peter Allen (01 992 630661). Check beforehand with Peter that visit is confirmed
July Sat 29th 2017 11:00	Botany Group. Thorndon Park North. Meet visitor centre car park. TQ607,914. CM133RZ.	Leader: Leader: Marion Miller Mobile: 07773 492260
August Fri 11th 2017 9:30 - 16:30	FSC Course: Wetland Moths. Field Studies Centre Course: This weekend course will instruct moth identification and ecology through slide presentations. This will help you work through the defining features of micro and macro moths and particularly identifying their families. Possibly the most important part of the course will be the hands on identification of live moths by participants with assistance from the tutor, other participants and books provided. The course will target species of wetland habitats. Book via FSC http://www.field-studies-council.org	Leader: Dave Grundy
August Sat 19th 2017 11:00	Botany Group. . St. Lawrence Bay marshes. Meet in the Stone car park at TL952,060. Close to CM0 7NT.	Leader: Leader: Marion Miller Mobile: 07922034398
August Sun 20th 2017 11am - 5pm	The Essex Natural History Show. Activities taking place at: The Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea, Basildon, Essex SS16 4UH. Free Entry and car parking!	
August Tue 22nd 2017 10.30am	General meeting: Chatham Green. Meet in car park at CM3 3FE. Monads TL7116 and TL7115. The Chatham Green Project is a conservation and education initiative on 400 acres of farmland in the heart of Essex. There is a 40-acre conservation and education site intended to be a biodiversity haven. The site has one pond, old woodland and extensive new tree plantations, grass meadow, ancient hedgerows and the working farm has large field margins.	Leader: Please contact Peter Harvey if attending: 01375 371571 Email: grayspeterharvey@gmail.com
September Sat 2nd 2017 1100	Botany Group. Thameside Nature Park and sea walls TQ69,78-79-80. Park at EVT Centre, Mucking Warf Road, Stanford le Hope. TQ6965,8064. SS17ORW.	Leader: Leader: Enid Barrie Mobile: 07941154538
September Sat 9th 2017 11:00	Botany Group. Hatfield Forest Lake to search for Potamogetons & Stoneworts by boat. Meet in Shell House Car Park. CM22 6NE	Leader: Leader: Ken Adams. Please book: 020 8508 7863 Mobile: 07773 492260
September Sat 16th 2017 11:00	General Meeting. Noakes Grove Nature Reserve, Redgates Lane, Sewards End, TL571388; Meet in Car Park at reserve; Map at www.organic-countryside.co.uk Organic Countryside website; Packed Lunch.	Leader: David Corke 01799599576, Mobile on day 07583076790. Email david@corke.biz
September Sat 16th 2017 14:00	Seaweeds & Botany Groups. Bradwell on Sea and Ramsey Island. Meet at Bradwell Waterside at the end of the B1021 (TL995079) Park wherever possible. Later, drive to Ramsay Island. NOTE Start time - low water approx. 15.45.	Leader: Leader: Ian Tittle Please book: 01227 365671 Mobile: 0781 829 2936
September Sat 23rd 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. Tiptree Heath. Meet in car park off B1022 at TL883 147. Packed lunch.	Leader: John Cooke please book on 01708 223477, mobile on the day 07941507549 email jhc@johcooke.plus.com
October Tue 3rd 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. Epping Forest, Oak Hill and Long Running. Meet in Green Ride car park north at TQ435, 995. Packed lunch. bring maps, compass GPS	Leader: Tony Boniface Please book 01245 266316 Mobile on the day 07582 775754
October Sat 7th 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. Phyllis Curry Nature Reserve. Follow signs to Great Leighs off the A130. Turn LEFT at the pub on right (used to be Queen Anne's Castle) towards Felsted for 3/4 mile and turn right into Dumney Lane. Packed lunch Limited parking Max 15 at the most, so please car share.	Leader: Tony Boniface Please book 01245 266316
October Wed 11th 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. Hockley Wood (West). Meet in car park (small charge) at top of hill. TQ 833 923. Entrance is off Main Road, Hockley, just east of the Bull Pub. Packed lunch.	Leader: Mary Smith Please book 01708 228921, mobile on the day 07903 052095
October Sat 14th 2017 10:30	Fungus Group with BNHS. Marks Hill Wood walking to Hoppit Shaw, meet in car park off B1007, TQ686 875, Packed Lunch	Leader: Rod Cole 01268 553149 email rod@jencole.plus.com
October Sat 14th 2017 9:30-16:30	FSC Course: Identifying Autumn Moths. Field Studies Course: Weâ€™ll be using live moth traps (set the evening before the course in different habitats) to catch a sample of the moths on the wing overnight. Once the traps are emptied and the animals safely stored in plastic pots, weâ€™ll introduce you to the fascinating challenges of identifying macro-moths (the larger ones!) down to species, wherever possible. Book via FSC: http://www.field-studies-council.org	Leader: Edward Jackson
October Tue 17th 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. MEETING MOVED TO NEXT WEEK WEDNESDAY 25	
October Sat 21st 2017 11:00	Fungus Group. Little & Great Bendysh Woods. Meet and park on left verge at Radwinter End just before Swan's Farm. CB10 2VD. Packed lunch.	Leader: Graham Smith Please book 01277 354034.
October Wed 25th 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. Danbury Country Park, Woodhill Road, slightly SW of village of Danbury. Packed lunch Car park fee.	Leader: Mary Smith. Please book 01708 228921, mobile on the day 07903 052095
October Sat 28th 2017 11.00am	General meeting. Twinsteadhall Wood, an ancient woodland with a good number of veteran pollards on the wood bank boundaries, numerous ponds etc. Parking at surfaced timber yard TL858355, accessed along a short surfaced track from Lorkins Lane, turn onto track at TL861354.	Leader: Please contact Peter Harvey if attending: 01375 371571 Email: grayspeterharvey@gmail.com
November Sat 4th 2017 10:30	Fungus Group. Waxcap special. Starting from Fryerning Churchyard. TL 638 001. Packed lunch. Fungus group AGM after the meeting at 40 Pentland Avenue CM1 4AZ	Leader: Tony Boniface Please book 01245 266316 Mobile on the day 07582 775754
December Sat 2nd 2017 11:00-16:00	Annual Exhibition & Social. At the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park TQ738, 865	Leader: Contact: Mary Smith 01708 228921