



Indoor Lecture Programme 2024/25

Crosthwaite Parish Room, Main Street, Keswick (next to the Co-op)

every other Thursday, at 7.30pm

Oct 3 Alice Parker & Ellena Consadine Wildlife & Protected Areas in the Irish Sea

Alice and Ellena are this year's Marine Futures interns, working across four partner organisations including the North West Wildlife Trusts, The Crown Estate, Orsted and Natural England. They will shed light on the amazing wildlife that can be found in the Irish Sea, as well as the need to protect it.

Oct 17 Ian Cole RSPB CurlewLIFE project

Ian is the RSPB Curlew LIFE project officer at Geltsdale and Hadrian's wall. The project has been working to reverse the decline in Curlews across five UK sites. Ian will talk about the success of the project nationally and locally.

Oct 31 Keira Booth Our Upland Commons

Keira works for the Foundation for Common Land as Project Officer on Our Upland Commons Project. The project runs for 4 years and is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and 24 partner organisations including the National Trust, LDNPA, Cumbria Wildlife Trust and the Federation for Cumbrian Commoners.

Nov 14 Chris West Conservation of Freshwater Pearl Mussels in West Cumbria

Chris works for the West Cumbria Rivers trust mainly on a project to conserve freshwater pearl mussels in the River Irt in the Wasdale Valley. He will talk about the project and why this amazing mussel is such an important species for the ecology of the area.

Nov 28 Peter Leeson Thirty years in Conservation- Tree Amble on Tour

Pete, Partnership Manager with the Woodland Trust and well known to many, will talk to us about his thirty-year career in conservation locally and how he has worked for a more tree'd landscape across the North West.

Jan 9 John Quinton Getting to net zero through better soil health

Professor John Quinton of Lancaster University will give a talk on the role that soils play in storing carbon and how it is linked to soil health. John is passionate about soil, 'The Brown Gold', which underpins our survival, but that most people take for granted. He has spent 30 years looking at the causes of soil erosion, soil monitoring and finding ways to protect and restore our soils.

Jan 23 Gareth Browning Wild Ennerdale - Experiences from a wild valley

Gareth works for Forestry England, one of the partners in the Wild Ennerdale project. He will share the vision of Wild Ennerdale and his experiences from working more with nature in the Ennerdale Valley.

Feb 6 Stephen Trotter The Secret Life of Moles

Stephen is the Chief Executive of Cumbria Wildlife Trust. He has agreed to share with us his knowledge of this fascinating and elusive mammal.

Feb 20 Dave Greaves Re-introducing Water Vole to the Ullswater Valley

Dave works for Eden Rivers Trust and will talk to us about the trust's project to re-introduce water voles, a keystone species, to the rivers in the Eden Valley. Why are they so important and what are the benefits seen by the project.

March 6 AGM

The (hopefully brief) AGM will be followed by a talk from **Nicki Baker**, founder of Keswick Swifts, about what the group has achieved, and what it has learnt, during its first 3 seasons of supporting and promoting the conservation of **Swifts in Keswick**.

Membership of Keswick Natural History Society costs £15 per annum, and gives free entry to all talks, opportunities to join the guided walks programme, and the annual Newsletter. You can join the Society at any of the meetings.

Non-members are very welcome to attend talks; entry is £5.

Parking is recommended in the Rawnsley Centre car park, Main Street, the other side of the Crosthwaite Parish Room from the Co-op. After 7pm the fee is £1, for all night.

Don't be tempted to park in the Co-op car park – they only allow 1 hour parking.

Booths car park now charges £2 for stays of up to 2 hours – longer stays are subject to a fine!!