

## Cinema Talks

### **10am to 10.55am: The Birds of Gloucestershire - the making of the county's most comprehensive book (Saturday only)**

This illustrated book published in November includes all 330 species recorded in the county, with details of all rarities, and sites and dates of occurrence of passage migrants. Co-authors Gordon Kirk and John will give an insight into what the book contains.

### **11am to 11.55am: Ice Road Birders – short film and digiscoping Q &A with the film maker James Lees**

Warden James Lees will introduce and show a short film he made on a digiscoping tour of the wilds of Iceland, followed by Q and A on digiscoping

### **12 – 12.55pm: Highlights of a Birding Year at WWT Slimbridge with Senior Reserve Warden Martin McGill**

Find out what has excited birdwatchers at WWT Slimbridge this year in this illustrated talk.

### **1pm to 1.55pm: Black Car Home – short film set in Gloucestershire featuring a trained swan, followed by Q & A (Saturday only)**

The audience will have a chance to meet actor Jon Cleave, local film makers David Pearson and Elizabeth Morgan and also Lloyd Buck, who trained Olive the swan. See the trailer here [www.blackcarhome.com](http://www.blackcarhome.com)

### **2pm to 3pm: Saving The Spoonies and Other Conservation Challenges - live link and presentation**

Includes a live link to the Spoon-billed sandpipers being reared off-site here at WWT Slimbridge, an update on the Great Crane Project and Madagascar pochard

**See our What's On Boards located through the Centre for other walks and talks happening today.**

## Activities

### **Swan bill sketching in the Peng (1.30pm to 3pm)**

Learn the technique of recording swan bills through sketching with Graham Hann. This technique has been used for decades and is still used to record all new Bewick's swan arrivals. There are three main bill pattern types but each swan has its own unique pattern.

### **Working dog demonstrations**

Ever see a dog herd up ducks in water? Watch the Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever Zen as she guides ducks into a decoy pipe without even getting her paws wet.

11am and 2pm (**Numbers limited, book at admissions**)

### **Guides in the Hides**

Head out to our Hides and look out for the WWT Guides. They will let you know the highlights from each of the main hides. Discovery Hide from 11 to 3pm, other hides will have roving guides throughout.

### **Mist netting demos**

10am to 1pm both days but weather permitting. Based in craft area alongside Sustainable Garden.

### **Wild Bird Feeds**

The main daily event throughout the winter at WWT Slimbridge. See thousands of birds being fed on the Rushy Lake in this commentated feed. Among them will be the Bewick's swans as well as other migratory species such as pintail, pochard and Canada Geese (3.30pm and 4.30pm) (Floodlit feed at 6.15pm, extra charges apply)

**Make a Bird Feeder** 11.30am to 3.30pm outside the cinema

**Owl pellet dissection** 11 to 3pm outside the cinema

**In Focus: binocular and telescope specialists:** In Focus has a permanent shop at Slimbridge, open 7 days a week for after sales support & service.

**Outdoor Photography Gear:** Outdoor Photography Gear are designers and manufacturers of photography equipment [www.outdoorphotographygear.co.uk](http://www.outdoorphotographygear.co.uk)

**Swarovski UK Limited:** Swarovski Optik, an Austrian family run company, stands for long range optics of the highest precision combining cutting edge technology with demand for the best possible craftsmanship. [www.swarovskioptik.com](http://www.swarovskioptik.com)

**Susan Lambourne:** Susan's paintings come from personal experience- she is a watercolour painter that experiments with other ink, pastel & acrylic media. She will have her original works available to purchase over the weekend. [www.susanlambourne.co.uk](http://www.susanlambourne.co.uk)

**Paramo:** Páramo Directional Clothing Systems was set up by the founder and owner of Nikwax they are suppliers of outdoor clothing that keeps you comfortable outdoors, day in, day out, mile upon mile, year after year. [www.paramo.co.uk](http://www.paramo.co.uk)

**Gloucestershire Ornithological Co-ordinating Committee:** The GOCC is the overall co-ordinating body for ornithological activities in the county.

**Bird Watching Magazine:** Britain's best selling bird magazine, Bird watching entertains birdwatchers with topical information, topical tips and ID pointers. [www.birdwatching.co.uk](http://www.birdwatching.co.uk)

**Specialised Nestboxes:** A family company that regularly supports WWT with their stand of nest boxes and camera nestboxes and feeders.

**Naturetrek:** Naturetrek provide professionally organised, expertly guided wildlife watching holidays and tours worldwide – they are the UK's leading wildlife tour specialist. [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

**Opticron:** Opticron specialise in the design and supply of binoculars, spotting scopes and accessories for the birdwatcher and wildlife enthusiast. They offer a comprehensive range of compact and full size binoculars and have one of the most extensive range of scopes in the UK. [www.opticron.co.uk](http://www.opticron.co.uk)

**Ronald Swanwick:** Ronald Swanwick is a local artist who will have some of his original works, drawings, prints and cards at this year's festival. [www.ronaldswanwick.co.uk](http://www.ronaldswanwick.co.uk)

**Smart Images:** Oliver Smart, the photographer will have wildlife photography prints, cards and photographic bean bags on his stand. He will be promoting his photography workshop, talks and events over the weekend. [www.smartimages.co.uk](http://www.smartimages.co.uk)

**Cath Hodsman:** Cath is a Cotswolds-based wildlife artist whose special interest is promoting the conservation and preservation of British plants and animals through her paintings. Her work is homage to the beauty of British wildlife. [www.cathodsmanwildlifeartist.com/author/admin/](http://www.cathodsmanwildlifeartist.com/author/admin/)

**David Finney:** Cheshire wildlife artist David A Finney will be bringing his original acrylic paintings, prints and cards to the festival. [www.davidfinney.co.uk](http://www.davidfinney.co.uk)

**London Camera Exchange:** At the show LCE will have a range of Canon cameras and lenses and photographic accessories for sale as well as an extensive selection of binoculars and scopes from the likes of Swarovski, Zeiss, Hawke and Opticron at show prices. They will also have some secondhand scopes and binoculars at tempting prices. [www.lcegroup.co.uk](http://www.lcegroup.co.uk)

**Severn Valley Wildlife Carvers:** The Severn Valley decoy carvers had a successful exhibition in the Cheng Kim Loke Gallery at WWT Slimbridge last year

**Dursley Bird watching & Preservation Society:** The Society has a varied programme of field events, indoor meetings, weekends and social events, which enable many conservation projects to be supported.

**Usbourne Books:** Children's books from birth to teens. Gorgeous and engaging non-fiction and Fiction to tempt and inspire all.

**Wild:i (sat only):** Borrow a tablet to trial an app for Slimbridge which gives you content and challenges to enhance your visit. Be one of the first to take part in this exciting project (Places limited)

**Flock here to Volunteer:** Find out more about our volunteering opportunities and how to get involved



**WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre**

# Slimbridge Festival of Birds 2014 – February 1 and 2

## Weekend Events Programme & Stands

Slimbridge Wetland Centre, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, GL2 7BT  
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