

HWT Ross Branch Newsletter August 2025



It's holiday time and lots of people are away taking a well-earned rest. At HWT Ross Branch we are working up our future activities and can report on some of our previous events.

Regenerative Farming Visit

On Friday 1st August a group of us visited Regen Ben at his farm in Brampton Abbots and were treated to a fascinating tour and some lovely food too.

A big thank you to Ben Taylor-Davies on Townsend Farm, and his family who support him with his groundbreaking work!

Wild About Gardens Update

We are planning another Wild about Gardens workshop in September so watch out for details once we have finalised them. This event is open to all who want some inspiration on how to make more space for wildlife and to those who want answers to problems in the garden whilst not harming wildlife.

Talks Programme

We are still putting together our talks programme but we intend to run them on the first Friday of each month starting from October 3rd. The subjects we are looking into are bioluminescence, permaculture, butterflies in Herefordshire, hedgehogs in the Wye Valley, Fungi and hedgerows in Herefordshire. Once again watch out for more details on HWT website <https://www.herefordshirewt.org/events/local-branch-group-events>.

John Kyrle High School competition

We had 16 entries this year from years 7 and 8 and all of high quality. There were three prize winners who each received a £50 gift voucher and a one-year family membership of HWT. The categories were blog, podcast and collage and as a result the blog and podcast will be developed and publicised by our treasurer, Nadine and the collage has been made into a HWT Ross Branch banner which will be used at all our events.

Wild about Education

In May we visited 8 schools (over 300 students in years 5 and 6) to talk to them about habitats and biodiversity. They were then shown how to create a habitat. We had very positive feedback from the students as well as the teachers.

Celebrating Our Nature Reserves

Across the Ross Branch of the HWT, we have a plethora of nature reserves. Nature reserves are areas designated by their owner for protection of wildlife. Some reserves are fully owned by the Wildlife Trust, some rangers manage on behalf of other organisations, others are privately owned or owned by businesses, Chantries or local councils.

This summer we are sharing information about seven of these reserves with you which you can visit for a peaceful walk or to see how these areas are a great representation of what can be done to conserve nature on our doorsteps. Look out on the Facebook group and Instagram (ross_branch_hwt) for a new reserve each week, and as well as updates about upcoming events before the next newsletter!

