

# BIRDWATCHING *Group*

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## **NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2025**

### **TONIGHT'S MEETING (6th February)**

Tonight we welcome Group member Peter Booth who will give a talk entitled "Brazil – the Lightning Tour"

Having had an interest in nature and the environment from a young age, Peter went on his first dedicated birding holiday in 2018 to the Cairngorms. He was immediately hooked and has subsequently enjoyed many UK and international trips since, slowly building up his knowledge and expertise. It was during the Covid pandemic that he decided to photograph and record the various birds he saw, thus allowing him to share his experiences with others.

Peter has kindly volunteered to step in to cover a cancellation.

Please join me in welcoming Peter for what I am sure will be a very entertaining evening.

### **COACH TRIPS**

The February coach trip is the weekend away to Solway (21st -23rd February).

The coach will leave from the Guild at 7:30am prompt. Please ensure that you arrive by 7:15am so that all luggage can be loaded on the coach before departure.

After that the March coach trip is on Sunday 23rd March to Blacktoft Sands and Old Moor reserves departing from the Guild at 7:30am.

Both reserves are predominantly wetland. Old Moor is mainly open water which attracts numerous wildfowl and water birds while Blacktoft has extensive reedbeds and is excellent for marsh harrier and is where bittern and bearded tit are possible. There are also reedbeds with marsh harrier, bittern and bearded tits at Old Moor.

Old Moor reserve is located in the Dearne Valley near Barnsley, Yorkshire while Blacktoft Sands reserve is located on the south bank of the River Ouse in East

Yorkshire. Both sites have numerous hides and feeders that attract small birds. Visitor facilities are available at both. Both sites are RSPB reserves so members should bring their cards.

Book your seat at the desk tonight.

### **NEXT MONTH'S MEETING**

The next indoor meeting will be on Thursday 6th March at 7:30pm when our speaker will be Chris Tynan with a talk entitled "Birding the Liverpool Bay".

Hope to see you all then.

### **NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS**

Still required – your articles for the newsletter. Tell us all about that birding holiday of a lifetime or that unusual visitor to your garden bird table. Send any interesting photos you have taken on our coach trips.

Deadline is the Thursday before the meeting.