



# **BTO/SOS Garden Wildlife Conference**

British Trust for Ornithology and  
Somerset Ornithological Society

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2011

at Richard Huish College, South Road,  
Taunton, Somerset, TA1 3DZ

**Programme and Booking Form**



*Robin by Robert Gillmor*

**Featuring talks from authors  
Stephen Moss & Dominic Couzens**

# Conference Programme - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Arrival at 0930 hrs and Introduction Talk at 1000 hrs

- 1010-1040 **Tim Harrison (BTO Garden BirdWatch)**  
**'Why gardens and local garden birdwatchers matter'**  
Gardens support important wildlife populations and, in our increasingly urbanising landscape, form an important link between people and the natural world. Tim Harrison explores this subject and uses BTO Garden BirdWatch data to present exciting findings from Somerset gardens.
- 1040-1110 **Eve Tigwell (BTO, SOS & Somerset Wildlife Trust)**  
**'Which birds do you see in your garden?'**  
Test your your ID skills on birds that you are likely to see in a Somerset garden and learn how to attract more of those that you like with Eve Tigwell, BTO Regional Representative for Somerset, Committee Member for SOS and Chairman of Somerset Wildlife Trust.
- 1110-1140 Coffee and biscuits
- 1140-1210 **Penny Richards (Somerset Wildlife Trust)**  
**'Biodiversity and the garden'**  
Penny will cover research which illustrates the importance of gardens in relation to biodiversity, including work done by Somerset Wildlife Trust's Gardening for Wildlife Group highlighting the vital role of pollinators in gardens. Penny will also discuss how gardens fit into the Wildlife Trust's 'Living Landscapes' vision.
- 1210-1240 **Dominic Couzens**  
**'Birds behaving badly'**  
A light-hearted look at the real lives that birds live away from the bird table, the Christmas cards and our wishful thinking. Dominic is a full-time writer and speaker on birds and other wildlife. His books include *Garden Bird Confidential* and *The Secret Lives of Garden Wildlife*. He also writes for magazines including *BBC Countryfile* and *BBC Gardeners' World*, and leads birdwatching field trips at home and abroad. He lives in Dorset.
- 1240-1330 Lunch with tea and coffee, plus book signing with Dominic Couzens
- 1330-1400 **Richard Bland (BTO)**  
**'Sparrows - where next?'**  
Richard will look at the local evidence from gardens for House Sparrow decline from the 1970s on, examine a recent four-year study in Bristol, outline the current situation shown by the Atlas and BTO/JNCC/RSPB Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), and will ponder what the future holds.
- 1400-1430 **David Ballance (SOS)**  
**'The Somerset Bird Atlas'**  
David will discuss the exciting bird Atlas work in Somerset and across the UK. As the Atlas enters its final year, there have been many notable achievements and there are still some challenges ahead. David will outline how your observations are important both within and beyond gardens.

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1430-1500 **Lou Pickersgill (Somerset Bat Group & Somerset Wildlife Trust)**  
**'Butterflies, bats and other wildlife in our gardens'**

A presentation about the wildlife that we can find in our gardens and how to encourage it. Hedges with native species linked to the wider countryside are vitally important for wildlife to move between refuge areas. Lou is Secretary of Somerset Bat Group and Chair of Somerset Wildlife Trust's Yeovil & District Area Group.

1500-1530 Coffee and biscuits, plus book signing with Dominic Couzens & Stephen Moss

1530-1600 **Stephen Moss**  
**'There's a hummingbird on the butterfly bush! A Somerset garden and its wildlife'**

Since moving down to the Somerset Levels with his young family five years ago, naturalist, author and TV producer, Stephen Moss, has discovered a whole new world of wildlife – in his garden!

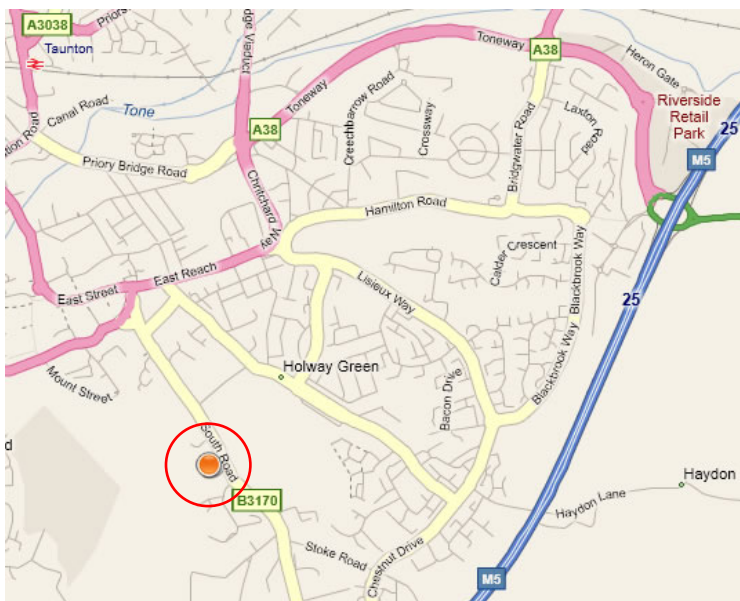
Stephen's TV work includes Springwatch, Birding with Bill Oddie and Birds Britannia. He has written many books, including *This Birding Life*, and *A Sky Full of Starlings*. His most recent book is *Wild Hares and Hummingbirds: the Natural History of an English Village*, an account of the wildlife of his home parish. A Londoner by birth and upbringing, he now lives in the village of Mark on the Somerset Levels; and is Vice-President of the Somerset Wildlife Trust.

1600-1615 Questions and close, followed by book signings with Dominic & Stephen

## How to get there:

**Venue:** Richard Huish College, South Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 3DZ

Free parking is available at the venue



For further details contact the BTO Garden Ecology Team on 01842 750050 or email [gbw@bto.org](mailto:gbw@bto.org)

# Booking Form

## Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2011

If you would like tickets for this conference at a cost of £10.00 per person, including lunch and other refreshments, please complete and return by 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011 to: Garden Ecology Team, BTO, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU. The ticket price covers the costs of refreshments and speaker travel expenses. Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Name(s): .....

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Address:.....

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Postcode: ..... GBW No: ..... (if applicable)

Telephone No: ..... Email: .....

Please specify any special dietary requirements? .....

Please specify any special access requirements? .....

Number of tickets required: ..... Total: £.....

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to 'British Trust for Ornithology' or

Please charge my credit/debit\* card with £ ..... \*Please delete as appropriate

Card Details: Visa/Mastercard/Switch/Maestro\*

No:

Start Date:     Expiry Date     Issue No:     
(If applicable)

3-digit security code:

Signed: .....

For further details contact the BTO Garden Ecology Team on 01842 750050

A BTO Shop will be at the conference