

SPEAKERS

Derek Robertson



Derek Robertson has been a professional artist for over 30 years and his paintings have won multiple national and international awards and are held in collections in over 50 countries around the world. He is also an enthusiastic amateur naturalist and bird ringer and has had papers published in many scientific journals as well as assisting in studies on bird migration between the Arctic, Europe and Africa. Derek will be talking about his most recent project "Migrations" which ties together human rights issues of refugee crises and climate change through the imagery of migratory birds and their role as environmental indicators. Derek travelled and sketched through the UK, Europe and the Middle East drawing together imagery of birds and people as they negotiated borders, refugee camps and points of transit. Project page www.creativepastures.com/migrations

Guy Kirwan



Guy Kirwan is a former editor of Sandgrouse and OSME Council member. A Research Associate at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, and Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, he currently works for Lynx Edicions.

This talk will focus on recent taxonomic developments for Middle Eastern birds as a result of research for The Birds of Turkey (Kirwan et al. 2008) and the recently published two volumes of Handbook of Western Palearctic Birds (Shirihai & Svensson 2018). It will cover my own work and that conducted with various collaborators, including preliminary results from several as yet unpublished studies.

Kabir Kaul



Kabir is a London-based wildlife enthusiast and birder, raising awareness about the capital's wild side through his map, The Nature Reserves of London. He birdwatches in the UAE annually, especially at Ra's Al Khor, where he saw the country's tenth Great White Pelican in 2018.

He will be sharing his birding adventures in and around Dubai, and some of the surprises he has encountered there. This will also include how these places have changed and developed over the years, and how this has affected some of Dubai's extraordinary avifauna.

Elaine & Peter Cowan



Peter Cowan, former editor of Sandgrouse, recently retired from the University of Nizwa, Oman. He is an arid lands zoologist. His wife, Elaine, moved to Nizwa in 2009 after retiring from the School of Education, University of Aberdeen, Scotland. They now live in Chesterfield, UK. Their presentation, based on Elaine's photos, illustrates diurnal wildlife at a wadi pool near Nizwa. Their aim is to encourage invertebrate ID using a digital bridge camera instead of a collecting net.

Vaughan & Svetlana Ashby



Birdfinders have been offering tours to Kazakhstan annually since 2000 with up to three tours in some years. Birding trips to north-west Kazakhstan are popular for those targeting edge of range Western Palearctic birds such as Demoiselle Crane, Caspian Plover, Black & White-winged Larks and Red-headed Buntings. The tours in southern Kazakhstan include visiting the stunning Tien Shan Mountains for specialities such as Himalayan Snowcock, Ibisbill, Black-throated, Brown and Himalayan Accentors, Plain and Black-headed Mountain-finches, Red-mantled Rosefinch and White-winged Grosbeak. This illustrated talk will show you all these birds and many more, including species that occur in the vast steppes and Saxaul forests.



ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE MIDDLE EAST

THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

Summer Meeting

Saturday 29 June 2019

All welcome!

Conservation in the OSME region

The Meeting will be held at:
British Trust for Ornithology
The Nunnery
THETFORD, Norfolk
IP24 2PU

Summer Meeting Saturday 29 June 2019

Programme

- 11.00 Introduction & welcome – Rob Sheldon, OSME Chairman
11.15 Migrations: a field study of migration and adversity – Derek Robertson
12.00 A whirlwind tour of taxonomic developments in the Middle East – Guy Kirwan
12.30 A young person's experience of birding in the UAE – Kabir Kaul
12.50 Lunch break – a range of sandwiches and drinks will be available
14.15 41st Annual General Meeting
15.00 Diurnal wildlife at a wadi pool in northern Oman – Elaine and Peter Cowan
15.45 Break
16.15 Birding in Kazakhstan – Vaughan and Svetlana Ashby
16.55 Drawing of raffle and closing remarks
17.15 Close of meeting

Doors open at 10am for tea, coffee, catching up with friends and meeting OSME Council members.

Dinner

We have again arranged a meal at The Mulberry restaurant in Thetford after the meeting. We hope you will be able to join us. Please contact Sajidah Ahmad via email secretary@osme.org to secure your place for the dinner.

OSME RAFFLE 2019

All profits from this year's raffle will go towards OSME's Conservation Fund. A selection of bird art will also be available for sale.

Getting to the BTO

By Rail to Thetford station: Thetford is on the Birmingham–Norwich line. From London travel via Cambridge. Taxis are available at Thetford station.

By Road: The Nunnery is on Nuns' Bridge Road which is off the A134 to the south of the town. To obtain a map of the area visit www.multimap.co.uk and enter postcode IP24 2PU. There is a large car park at The Nunnery.

Accommodation can be found in Thetford, Bury St. Edmunds, Norwich, Newmarket and Barton Mills.

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www.osme.org

41st Annual General Meeting

Copies of the draft Minutes of the 40th AGM and the Accounts for 2018 will be available at the meeting. The draft Minutes were also posted on the website where they can still be viewed. If you would like copies in advance please e-mail the OSME Secretary: secretary@osme.org

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting (30 June 2018)
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's overview of 2018
5. Presentation and adoption of the Accounts for 2018
6. Appointment of accounts examiner for 2019
7. Election of Officers

Vice-Presidents (Elected by Council for a 10-year term)

The following are continuing in office: Melis Charalambides (2010–20); Dr Nabegh Ghazal Aswad (2013–23) The following will be ending their term of office at this year's AGM: Azzam Alwash (2009-19).

Council Members (Trustees elected for a fixed term)

The following are continuing in office: Ian Harrison (2015–20); Robert Sheldon (2009; Chairman 2013–23); Thomas Haraldsson (2016–21); Chris Hughes (Treasurer 2012–22); Nick Moran (2016–21); Paul Stancliffe (2017–22); Mike Blair (2017–22). Sajidah Ahmad was elected as a full Council Member so is no longer co-opted. The following will be ending their term of office at this year's AGM: Dora Querido (2014–19).

Currently Co-opted Council Members (appointed by the elected Council)

John Warr (Joint Treasurer & Membership); Effie Warr (Sales & Distribution); Peter Cowan (Editor, Sandgrouse); Abdul Rahman Al Sirhan (Website Manager); Mike Blair (ORL).

Nominations: Georgia Locock

Further nominations should be sent to the Secretary (e-mail: secretary@osme.org) to arrive as soon as possible. Council would be pleased to welcome any members who can assist with maintaining OSME as one of the premier regional bird clubs.

8. Any other business.

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