



May

Breathing Places this month

✓ Do one thing

Sow **wild flower seeds** to provide nectar for insects such as bees, hover-flies and butterflies.

Find out more at www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces

i What to look for

Across Britain hedgerows are white with **cow parsley** and in damp woods carpets of **wild garlic** and **wood sorrel** cover the ground. **Red campion** and **germander speedwell** are flowering on sunny banks and hedgerows. In rivers you can spot sheets of **water crowfoot**. In the west of Britain sea trout are making their way upstream to breed. Their relatives the **brown trout** are rising to hatches of **mayflies**, also prey for metallic green damselflies such as the **banded demoiselle**. Look out for the frightening (but harmless) **cockchafer beetles** as they blunder about on warm evenings, especially over farmland. Other insects to look for are the **wasp beetle** and the **cardinal beetles**, which sit out in the open protected by their warning colours. **Nightingales** sing in southern woods and **garden warblers** and **blackcaps** sing in scrub and woodland. **Swifts** scream through the city streets and bring a touch of the tropics to our lives. At dusk **badger cubs** emerge from their setts accompanied by their parents. Harder to spot are **baby hares** crouching in the long grass of open fields.

Find out more at www.open2.net

? Did you know

A baby pipistrelle bat is only about the size of a 50p coin. In May they are unable to fly, but sometimes find their way into unfortunate situations. Don't handle them: call the bat experts: **0845 1300 228**

Find out more at www.bats.org.uk

Habitat of the month

Hedgebanks: Many flowers are in bloom and insects are busy surviving. Look for beetles, bugs and bumblebees. With their mixture of woody plants and herbs hedgebanks are especially good for biodiversity.

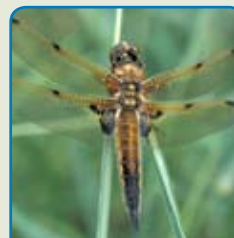
Photo opportunity

Hedge and verge flowers: Plants are bursting into flower everywhere. Use a tripod to help keep the lens steady. Go out early and catch the morning dew. Or try the evening – the low sun makes interesting shadows and makes colours appear richer.

Photo opportunity



Have you seen this month



Four-spotted Chaser

DATE:

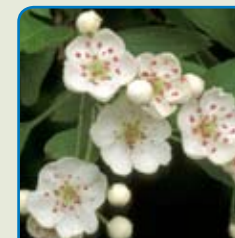
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Germander Speedwell

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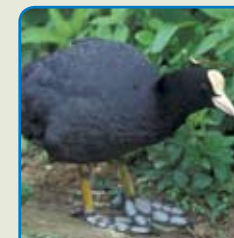
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Hawthorn

DATE:





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Coot

DATE:

AMOUNT:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		 Wildlife Trust: Walk in the Woods	1  BTCV: Spring into Action	2	3	4  International dawn chorus day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31  Wildlife Trust: Wildlife Week Triple Bill	