



The Supporter

Newsletter for Lewes Swift Supporters

April 2023

Dear Lewes Swift Supporters,

Welcome to all the new Supporters who we had the pleasure of meeting at our Swift Day at Lewes Climate Hub yesterday!



It was a fantastic day, with 102 visitors to the Hub. The displays will still be on show on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 3rd to 5th May, from 11.00a.m. to 3.00 p.m. if you would like to drop in at Lewes Climate Hub, in Lewes House, 32 High Street.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the event – you really made it special! It is wonderful to know that so many people are interested in Swifts and wish to help them. I will be replying to individual queries over the next few days – but meanwhile here is a brief news update on the Swifts in Lewes!

Swift Watch 2023

We have already received several sightings of Swifts in Lewes. The first, on Friday 28th April, was a pair of Swifts flying above Leicester Road at 7.45 p.m. Later in the evening we saw one Swift above The Avenue and another behind the Black Horse.

Yesterday, there were several sightings in the High Street from 11.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. and, in our survey at the top of the town, we saw a pair above Leicester Road again, one over De Montfort Road, and two Swifts flew over St. Anne's Church. Just today, three Swifts were seen over Stansfield Road, Landport at 9.40 a.m.. It is definitely time to start looking up!

All of you are welcome to send your sightings of Swifts to us – via Facebook, Twitter, or email, (see details below). This is what we would like to know:

- ***Date and time***
- ***How many Swifts?***
- ***Location, for example, road name or address of nearest house***
- ***What were the Swifts doing, for example, screaming, flying low, or entering a nest space?***

We collect all the data sent to us via Swift Watch and send it with all the information from our regular surveys to BTO BirdTrack at the end of the season. You could help us to find more colonies!

First nest entry



At 2.27 this afternoon, the first Swift returned to Sharon's nest space under the eaves of her house in King Henry's Road.

Earlier in the month, we visited Sharon's loft to clear seven more potential nest spaces under the eaves. Afterwards we boxed them in with plywood to shield the Swifts from glare through the window opposite.



One of the new entrances, the nest cam set up, and the finished cabinets.

With best wishes from the LSS Committee:

Mike Ramsey, Chairperson and Surveyor

Kevin Murphy, Recorder and Surveyor

Sharon Hall, Treasurer

Crispin Holloway, Founder Member

Emma Allen, Surveyor



Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/lewesswiftsupporters/>

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