

## Swift Newsletter April 2023

It's been a busy time since our last newsletter and with over 150 swift boxes now installed in Winchcombe, we're ready for the first group of swifts that usually arrive at the beginning of May, so not too long to wait.

Currently the swifts are migrating towards the UK, flying over the Atlas Mountains in North Africa and Spain. Let's hope that the remainder of their long journey to Winchcombe is a success with plentiful insects and some decent weather to help them on their way.

In past years, the first sightings in Winchcombe have been around 7 May so it would be good to see if that's the same for this year too.

All our swift boxes are individually hand made by John in our group and John has been working really hard this winter to keep up with demand. So, a huge thank you to John. Notable places that have had boxes in the last couple of months include Winchcombe library, St Peters Church Tower, and the Postlip Paper Mill which had 20 boxes. A big thanks also to Kevin who has a good head for heights and has spent many hours, in all weathers up a ladder installing boxes.

You can see photos of our installations on [Winchcombe Swift Support Group | Facebook](#) and on the website [Home - Winchcombe Swift Support Group \(e-voice.org.uk\)](http://www.e-voice.org.uk)

Gill and John from the support group also visited Winchcombe Abbey Primary School in March to give a talk to the children. They had numerous questions about swifts and were amazed to learn that swifts fly, eat and sleep on the wing. The school also plan to have a swift box fitted soon.

Many more people have also been in touch with us to make enquiries about having a box and we are work through the waiting list.

We are really looking forward to the first swifts arriving soon and don't forget to let us know whether your swift box has any visitors this spring and summer. Email us to let us with your news at [wssgroup7@gmail.com](mailto:wssgroup7@gmail.com) or share your updates on [Winchcombe Swift Support Group | Facebook](#)

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Winchcombe Swift Support Group