





Welcome to our International Dawn Chorus Day Event









Celebrating nature's symphony







What are we doing here?

Celebrated on the first Sunday of May, International Dawn Chorus Day began in the 1980's when broadcaster and environmentalist Chris Baines asked everyone to attend his birthday party at 4am so they could enjoy the dawn chorus with him. The event is still going strong and International Dawn Chorus Day 2016 is going to be the biggest ever.



The Wildlife Trusts promotes International Dawn Chorus Day because we believe the best way to generate support for nature conservation and understanding of the importance of the natural world to human well-being, is to get people to experience the wonders of the their local wildlife first-hand.

The Dawn Chorus has grown from a small event in Birmingham UK to an annual international celebration with Dawn Chorus events held as far afield as the Caribbean and Antarctica.

However, there's no need for exotic or expensive holidays to enjoy the dawn chorus – you can participate on your doorstep. To date, over eighty countries have participated in International Dawn Chorus Day, again this year people all over the globe will be rising early to greet the morning sun and enjoy nature's daily miracle.



What is the dawn chorus?



As the dawn rises during early spring to summer, songbirds live up to their name and fill the air with music...

Despite the sweet sounds, it's the males who sing the longest and loudest their main purpose being to mark their territory: calling out to

females to attract a mate and warning off potential male rivals.

However, some birds also sing as part of their courtship and, in long-lived birds, to re-affirm a previously successful partnership: their sweet sounds making the dawn chorus such an ode to joy.

Some species of birds, like gulls, do not have songs, but most have something to sing about. Further during the dawn chorus, robins, song thrushes and blackbirds are the star singers of the event and are always among the first to strike up a song.



You can find out more about the Dawn Chorus and International Dawn Chorus Day on the website **www.idcd.info** and search **#idcd** on Twitter to see what's happening around the world.



This event is organised by:

Why not ask the organisers of this event how you can help support them throughout the year?

Share and enjoy!

The beautiful thing about International Dawn Chorus Day is that it brings nature lovers together all over the world. Twitter is a great way to share our experiences, so use **#idcd** to let everyone know what you see, hear and feel. If you are able to list the birds you see and hear, please send this to idcd@wildlifetrusts.org or upload it onto the website.



There are 47 individual Wildlife Trusts covering the whole of the UK with more than 800,000 members including 150,000 members of our junior branch Wildlife Watch. We manage around 2,300 nature reserves and every year we advise thousands of landowners and organisations on how to manage their land for wildlife. Each Wildlife Trust is working within its local communities to inspire people about the future of their area: their own Living Landscapes and Living Seas. www.wildlifetrusts.org