Castlemorton Environmental Group

Pine Martens



The pine marten is a charming, fragile survivor of our ancestors' woodland clearance and persecution of predators. It's current recovery in Britain and Ireland bucks the trend of wildlife loss and offers hope in this era of catastrophic environmental degradation. This talk by Johnny Birks involves science and humour in exploring the human attitudes and impacts that have driven the pine marten's changing fortunes: from its heyday in the Mesolithic wildwood; through its close brush with extinction 100 years ago when it survived mainly in a rugged Scottish Highland refuge; to the exciting modern reintroductions restoring populations to Wales and western England; and to the challenges to further recovery posed by habitat constraints and climate breakdown.

Johnny will be selling signed copies of his Whittet book *Pine Martens* for £20 cash please.

Johnny Birks is an experienced mammalogist who has been involved in studying pine martens for over 30 years. Among other jobs he worked for Vincent Wildlife Trust on polecats and pine martens and was chair of The Mammal Society from 2009-2015. He lives in West Malvern.

Castlemorton Parish Hall
Thursday 10th December at 7:30pm

Entry £2:50 cash, with tea or coffee and biscuits provided.