

DRAFT PROGRAMME



ATU MAYO CAMPUS

27-29 **MAY** 2026





DRAFT PROGRAMME

Tuesday 26 May 2026

15:00 to 17:30 Registration at ATU Mayo Reception area

Wednesday 27 May 2026

08:15 to 09:30 Registration & Coffee at ATU Mayo Reception area

Chairperson: Dr Deirdre Garvey

09:30 – 10:10 Introduction and Welcome address (to be confirmed)

10:10 – 10:40 *Guest Speaker: Eoin Warner, Wildlife Documentary Presenter in both Irish and English languages and has presented some of Ireland's foremost nature documentaries*

10:40 – 11:00 A decade of surveying Swifts with the OPW and Councils, Ireland

11:00 – 11:20 The History of the Common Swift Research Project at ATU Mayo - Ireland

11:20 – 11:30 Q & A

11:30 – 11:40 Coffee break

12:00 – 12:20 Insights from tracking a 19 month non-stop flight of a sub-adult Common Swift
12:20 – 12:50 “Figli dell’Aria - The Swifts of Campiglia Marittima”: reaching out to people through creativity - Italy

12:50 – 13:10 Where do our recruits come from?

13:10 – 13:20 Q & A

13:20 – 14:00 Lunch

Chairperson: Dr Deirdre Garvey

14:10 – 14:30 Swift conservation in Cadiz, Andalucia, Spain

14:30 – 14:50 Visualizing Vaux's Swifts - short presentation with video - USA

14:50 – 15:10 Caring for Swifts - Challenges & Opportunities - UK

15:10 – 15:20 Q & A

15:20 – 15:50 Coffee break

15:50 – 16:10 Mapping the Swifts – Austria

16:10 – 16:30 Conservation of Swifts in Buildings: Updated Guide for Nesting Site Protection

16:30 – 16:50 Erich Kaiser 1937 - 2025 - A Life for Swifts

16:50 – 17:00 Q&A

17:00 Screening of Video Commissioned by the RSPB

“Meet the Communities Who Have Come Together to Save our Swifts”



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Thursday 28 May 2026

Chairperson: TBC

- 09:00 – 09:30 *Guest Speaker: Dr Brendan Dunford, Founder of BurrenBeo, Farming for Nature, Re-Farm*
- 09:30 – 09:50 Population Recovery of the Common Swift in Killorglin, Co. Kerry: Findings from the 2025 Survey - Ireland
- 09:50 – 10:10 Passive Acoustic Monitoring for Swifts - using sound to investigate chick feeding rates - Wales
- 10:10 – 10:30 Vaux's Happening – Mexico takes us over 30 Million!
- 10:30 – 10:50 The challenges of establishing new Swift colonies in rural areas - Scotland
- 10:50 – 11:00 Q & A
- 11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:30 – 11:50 Using Artificial Intelligence to Identify Feeding Events in Swift Nest-Box Videos - Ireland
- 11:50 – 12:10 Temperature under tiled roofs revisited - Netherlands
- 12:10 – 12:30 Beijing Swift Conservation: A Government-Led Model Integrating Research, International Cooperation and Public Participation - China
- 12:30 – 12:40 Q & A
- 12:40 – 14:00 Lunch

Chairperson: TBC

- 14:00 - 14:30 *Guest Speaker James O'Neill - Swift Research in Northern Ireland*
- 14:30 – 14:50 Census and monitoring of the Swift population in the city of Amsterdam
- 14:50 – 15:10 Derbyshire Dales: development of a Swift conservation model - UK
- 15:10 – 15:30 Q & A
- 15:30 – 16:00 *Coffee break*
- 16:00 – 16:20 Temperature in Swift nests: review of Dutch data
- 16:20 – 16:40 Our Swifts - 22 years in the Life of a Colony - UK
- 16:40 – 16:50 Q & A
- 16:50 Screening of Video 'The Other Taylor Swift'

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Friday 29 May 2026

Chairperson: TBC

09:00 – 09:30 *Guest Speaker: Georgia Macmillan, Mayo Dark Sky Park*

09:30 – 09:50 Hearing Vaux's Swifts - presentation with audio - USA

09:50 – 10:10 Rescue Data Analysis of the Common Swift (*Apus apus*) (2022–2025): Implications for Conservation and Management in North-Eastern Italy

10:10 – 10:30 The inside out of the aerial Swift, a swift look for insiders

10:30 – 10:40 Q & A

10:40 – 11:10 *Coffee break*

11:10 – 11:30 Optimising Grant Applications for Swift Conservation

11:30 – 11:50 Demographic changes in three Common Swift colonies in the Lombardy region, Italy

11:50 – 12:10 Citizen Science and Community Engagement in Common Swift Conservation in Iran

12:10 – 12:30 Q & A

12:30 – 13:40 Lunch

Chairperson: Dr Cilian Roden

13:40 - 14:10 *In Conversation With: Gordon D'Arcy, artist and naturalist.*

14:10 – 14:30 How many Swifts are there in the UK?

14:30 – 14:50 My Home is my Castle - Common Swifts in North Western Switzerland

14:40 – 15:00 Q & A

15:00 – 15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30 – 15:50 Citizen science initiative to preserve common swifts (*Apus apus*) during heat wave events in Toledo - Spain

15:50 – 16:10 A discussion of optimum Swift nest box design with particular reference to nest forms

16:10 – 16:30 The Contribution of Dr Jane Goodall to Swift Conservation Worldwide

16:30 – 16:40 Q & A

16:40 Screening of Video “Born to Fly”

17:30 – 20:00 Closing event: Buffet with Traditional Irish Music

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