

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

(www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk)



Scottish Charity No:
SC 005538

Eskrigg Reserve

September 2012 News Bulletin

1. Rainbow reflected in the pond on the 14th.

2. Confirmed wildlife sightings:

a. Birds:

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Dunnock, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, House Martin, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Little Grebe, Mallard, Mistle Thrush, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Raven, Robin, Siskin, Sparrowhawk, Swallow, Tree Creeper, Willow Tit, Willow Warbler, Wood Pigeon, Wood Warbler, Wren, Yellowhammer.

b. Mammals:

Bank Vole, Common Shrew, Fox, Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Wood Mouse.

c. Amphibians (A) and Reptiles (R):

A - Common Toad R - Common Lizard.

d. Invertebrates caught or spotted during September:

1. Moths:

Cinnabar caterpillar *1, Elephant Hawkmoth caterpillar *2, *Agonopterix heracliانا*, Autumnal Rustic, Common Marbled Carpet, July Highflyer, Silver Y.

2. Butterflies:

Peacock, Red Admiral and Small Tortoiseshell.

3. Damselflies:

Azure, Blue-tailed, Common Blue.

4. Dragonflies:

Black Darter (f) *3.



Photographs: Sybille Spägle (SS), George Trudt (GT), Roddy Armstrong (RA).

3. Activities at the Reserve during September:

a. Monday 3rd: Environmental Studies Class from Lockerbie Academy.

The class worked together to replace the boards alongside part of the path.



1. Removal of old board



2. Digging channel for new board



3. Cutting tree roots as necessary



4. Putting new board in place



5. Hammering in posts



6. Nailing board to posts



7. Posts trimmed and path edge filled with gravel to finish the section

Photographs by Ann Good

b. Saturday 8th: Rediscover

As part of Dumfries and Galloway's Celebration of Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing Weekend, Maggi Gibson, author of 'Seriously Sassy', ran a workshop at Eskrigg Centre for 12 to 16 year olds. She described how she came up with ideas for her stories and how the main characters dealt with a range of environmental issues. The workshop was enjoyed by two Lockerbie Academy pupils.

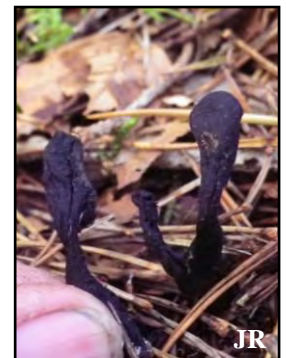


c. Sunday 9th: Fungal Foray with Duncan Ford

Once again Duncan led a very interesting and informative walk starting at the Reserve and finishing at the Cemetery Car Park. As well as identifying individual specimens, he showed how to distinguish between the main groups of fungi and explained which were edible and which were not.

The following species were found:

Amethyst Deceiver	Ashen Chanterelle	Bay Bolete
Beechwood Sickener	Birch Knight Cap	Birch Mazegill
Blackening Brittlegill	The Blusher	Brown Birch Bolete
Chanterelle	Charcoal Burner	Common Earthball
Elfin Saddle	False Morel	Foxy Orange Web-cap
Grey Grisette	Oak Milk Cap	Ochre Brittlegill
Olive Oysterling	Pelargonium Web-cap	Penny Bun
Red-cracking Boletus	Red Dappled Web-cap	Rufus Milk Cap
<i>Russula integra</i>	Slimy Milk Cap	Slippery Jack
Summer Bolete	Tawny Grisette	Ugly Milk Cap
Wood Hedgehog	Wood Pink-gill	Yellow Swamp Brittlegill



Unidentified

d. Thursday 20th: Dumfries Academy Advanced Higher Biology Class

The Biology class, with teacher Callum Grierson, came to the Reserve to study the stream and pond organisms.

Stream organisms found:

Three-spined Stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*), Minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*), Mayfly nymphs (*Ecdyonurus* sp. *Baetis* sp. & unidentified species), Freshwater Shrimp (*Gammarus pulex*), Water Beetle, Water Mite, Bloodworm (*Chironomus* sp.) and three unidentified species of insect larvae.

Pond organisms found:

Leeches (two species), Three-spined Stickleback, Damselfly nymph, Pea Mussel, Pond Snail, Lesser Water Boatman, Mayfly nymph and Pond Skater.

e. Wednesday 26th: Lockerbie Academy Photography class with Chris Williamson.

The class came down to the Reserve to take some wildlife pictures as part of their course. Perhaps we shall see some of their pictures in the local press in the weeks ahead.



Photographs by Jim Rae (JR)

4. Visitor Records:

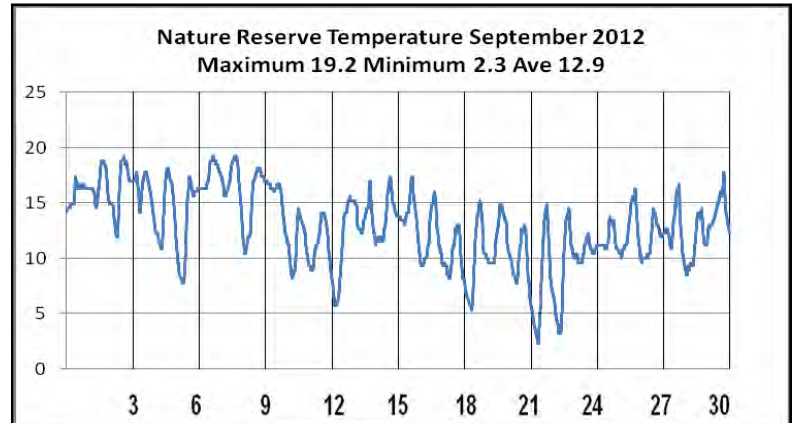
Month	Total number of Visitors	Daily Average Visitors
April	4262	142
May	2681	89
June	1560	52
July	2098	68
August	1960	63
September	2384	79.5



5. Weather Records:

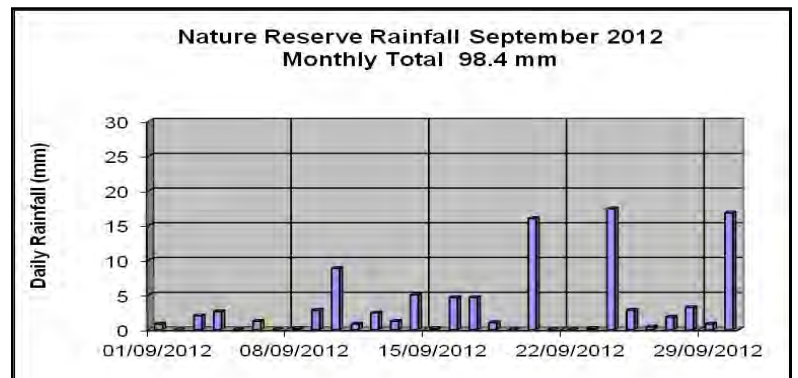
a. Air temperature

Month	Maximum	Minimum	Average
April	11.7	-7.2	3.4
May	20.9	-6.3	7.2
June	18.7	2.3	12.7
July	21.1	7.1	14.4
August	22.4	8.1	16.1
September	19.2	2.3	12.9

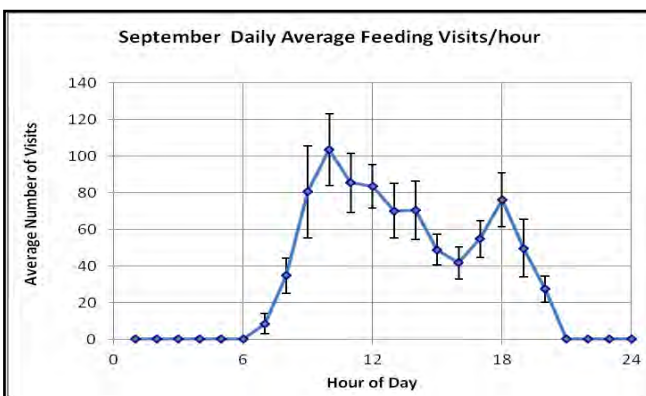


b. Precipitation

Month	Rainfall (mm)
April	78.8
May	61.1
June	207.9
July	135.5
August	160.2
September	98.4



6. Monitoring Red Squirrel Feeding Behaviour



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