



Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

(Scottish Charity Number 005538)

Annual Report 2019–2020

Part 1 – Trust Events and Reserve Activities

1. The 31st AGM

This was held in Lockerbie Town Hall on 25 September 2019 and was followed by an Open Forum to give members an opportunity to make comments or raise any issues of concern.

2. Winter Talks Programme

The Executive Committee organised the following programme of talks over the winter.

- Oct. 2019 **"Birds, Butterflies & Moths: The hunters & the hunted in South West Scotland"**
by **Barbara Mearns**.
- Nov. 2019 **"Saving the Sparling: A little fish in big trouble"**
by **Courtney Rowland** (Assistant Fisheries Biologist with the Galloway Fisheries Trust).
- Dec. 2019 **"Why is woodland where it is? An exploration of changing landscapes with specific reference to Dumfries and Galloway"**
by **Archie McConnel**.
- Jan. 2020 **"Antarctica & South Georgia, in the footsteps of Shackleton"**
by **John and Jean Robson**.
- Feb. 2020 Members' Night: **"Eskrigg Reserve Wildlife Quiz"**
by **Jim Rae** (Reserve Manager).
- Mar. 2020 **Talk cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.**

3. Fundraising Events

- a. **Quiz and Live Music with Gary Shanks at the MACC** (22 September 2019) raised £221.75.
- b. **Coffee Morning at Lockerbie Town Hall** (9 November 2019) raised £436.30.
- c. **Christmas Stalls** (16, 29 & 30 November) raised £1,684.29.
- d. **Nut Race** (23 February 2020) raised £660.

There was no Spring Coffee Morning, Sponsored Walk or Gala Day collection in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

4. Reserve Management

a. Maintenance

Maintenance work undertaken this year included: upkeep of walkways (including the forest road, Eskrigg Farm road, the Woodland Walks and the Reserve path); clearing of waterways (including feeder burn, bypass burn, drainage ditches, culverts, silt trap and pond); cleaning and treatment of timber structures (including fences, signs, waymarkers, interpretation boards, hides, bench seats and Centre); gathering of litter and clearance of dog dirt. There was also the daily upkeep of the Centre, hides, toilet and wildlife feeding stations. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the maintenance work during the autumn of 2019 and early spring 2020. From March to August 2020, the Reserve Manager worked alone due to the Covid-19 pandemic and all planned events were cancelled.

b. New Developments

Work began in the spring of 2019 to replace the boardwalk with a hardcore path. By August 2019 the first 100m section had been completed and a bridge constructed over the outflow pipe.

This session:

Between September 2019 and March 2020, the rest of the boardwalk (120m) was removed, a tree stump ground down and a raised gravel path constructed in their place.

In April and May 2020, the old East Hide and its timber pontoon were dismantled and a new platform constructed by filling four gabion baskets with large stones.

In July and August 2020, a rear platform was also constructed from gabion baskets and steps were built to connect the end of the path and the platform behind the new hide.

The new East Hide will be erected in session 2020–2021, just as soon as the joiner who has prefabricated the hide can find the time.

c. Pondlife

The pond almost dried up during the long dry spring but has fully recovered since then. The swans nested as usual, but unfortunately laid only three eggs that turned out to be unfertilised. Once the heron and carrion crows left the area to breed themselves, the mallard successfully reared six broods of ducklings. There is still a shortage of emergent plants in the pond and therefore few damselflies and dragonflies breeding in the area. However, there are enough aquatic invertebrates to feed the sticklebacks and encourage the kingfisher to hunt the pond.

d. Red Squirrels

The number of red squirrels visiting the Reserve is now very few because an individual from Dumfries is still coming over to Lockerbie several days every week and feeding the squirrels in woods nearby. This decline was not helped by the fact that at least one grey squirrel visited their camp during the past year and passed on the squirrelpox virus. They apparently reported on their twitter feed that they watched the reds die one after the other. Unfortunately they never reported the incidents at the time and the Reserve Manager did not get to hear about it until it was too late to trap the greys. Someone else did report seeing a grey squirrel in early August 2020 and the Reserve Manager put out traps to try and catch it. So far only reds have been caught and released.

e. Wildlife Records

The year 2019 was particularly good for Painted Lady butterflies. In 2020, the woodpecker nest box was used for the first time, but by a family of starlings.

During this past year, 114 new species have been identified in Eskrigg Nature Reserve and Woodland Walks. These included: 4 slime moulds, 51 fungi, 45 bryophytes, 5 moths, 4 other insects, 4 herbaceous plants, 1 plant gall, 1 bird. A full list of the fungi, slime moulds and plant and animal species is available on the Trust's website – www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk.

f. Reserve Code of Conduct

There have been very few incidents of inconsiderate or antisocial behaviour this past year. Once a week, the Reserve Manager empties the dog bins and gathers up any litter. Nevertheless, there are still some irresponsible dog owners who don't pick up after their dogs and people who discard litter wherever they see fit.

Since March, the vast majority of visitors have behaved responsibly and observed social distancing. The Eskrigg Centre, Red Squirrel Hide and toilet were closed then because the Reserve Manager could not be present to enforce social distancing in these buildings. The toilet could, however, be accessed in emergency by phoning the Reserve Manager to obtain the access code for the key guard. The Reserve Manager could then sterilise the toilet before it was next required.

g. Support

The Reserve Manager greatly appreciated the assistance given at various times during the past year by the following adult volunteers: **Steven Dalgliesh, Fraser Dalgliesh, Jamie Davies, Ross Gemmell, Alistair Gordon, David and Kathryn Hughes, Billy Jardine, Bert Kirkpatrick, Norah Muirhead, Gary Shanks, Sybille Spägele and Neil Stewart.**

Lockerbie Academy's Duke of Edinburgh Award students, Euan Armstrong, James Cotton, Dominic Holden, Anthony Ison, Finlay Lennox, Alasdair Thomson and James Vatcher helped on various occasions from January to March 2020. Their assistance was also greatly appreciated.

5. Working with Nurseries, Schools and Colleges

- Sep. 2019 - Carlisle University students started filming the mammals at Eskrigg Reserve.
 - International students visiting Lockerbie Academy were given a guided tour of the Reserve.
- Oct. 2019 - Carlisle University student did more filming of the mammals at Eskrigg Reserve – capturing footage of red squirrel, fox, hare & leverets, roe deer, woodmouse and bank vole.
 - Visit by Murray Primary School from East Kilbride.
- Nov. 2019 - Visit by Barony College students.
- Jan. 2020 - A Children's Wildlife Photography Competition was set up involving S3–S6 pupils at Lockerbie Academy. Unfortunately the subsequent Covid-19 pandemic prevented the students from visiting the Reserve and the competition was cancelled for this year.

6. Working with Community Groups

- Sep. 2019 - A Thermal Imaging Workshop for people controlling grey squirrels across D&G.
 - Visit by Carlisle U3A Bird and Nature Group.
- Oct. 2019 - The Scottish Joint Fungal Foray spent the day at Eskrigg Reserve.
- Nov. 2019 - Lockerbie Wildlife Trust hosted a Scottish Badgers Training Course.
- Feb. 2020 - Members of the RY Youth Organisation visited the Reserve in the evening.

7. Eskrigg Reserve Programme of Events

- Sep. 2019 - Fungal Foray with Duncan Ford.
- Oct. 2019 - The Reserve Manager attended an ATV Rider Course to get to know the new quad bike.
- Dec. 2019 - Bryophyte Survey by Liz Kungu and colleagues. This turned up a rare liverwort: *Colura calyptrifolia*. On 4 January, Liz returned to show the Reserve Manager where the rare specimen could be found.
- Feb. 2020 - Annual Nut Race.

9. Promoting the Trust and Eskrigg Reserve

During the past year Jim Rae gave talks to the following groups:

- Sep. 2019 - Corrie SWI.
- Oct. 2019 - Thornhill SWI.
- Nov. 2019 - Business and Professional Women of Annan.

10. Communicating with Members and the general public

- a. Hard copies of the Eskrigg Reserve Monthly News Bulletin are available for the public to read in Lockerbie Library, Dryfesdale Lodge Visitors' Centre and Eskrigg Centre. Each month the Bulletin is posted on the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust website and sent to members and friends of the Trust who have an email address and have expressed a wish to be kept informed in this way.
- b. Occasional newsletters are posted out to members who do not have email facilities to help keep them informed about events.
- c. Posters advertising events are displayed in local libraries, shops, hotels and the Reserve.
- d. All events are posted on the Trust's website: **www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk**. Many thanks to Sybille Spägele for the many hours she spends keeping the website updated and accessible from computers, tablets and mobile phones.
- e. People can follow what is happening at Eskrigg Reserve on **Facebook** – 'Eskrigg Nature Reserve' and 'Lockerbie Wildlife Trust'.

11. Visitors to the Reserve:

The exact number of people visiting the Reserve each week is not recorded at the moment. The Reserve Manager still plans to install a people counter in the near future. During the period April–August 2020, the numbers did increase markedly due to people using the area for their daily exercise during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many young mountain bikers now use the woodland walks and some have created their own trails. These are not the responsibility of Lockerbie Wildlife Trust. The Reserve Manager is grateful to all the photographers who provide copies of photographs taken at the Reserve and allow them to be published in the Monthly Bulletins or on the Reserve's Facebook page.

12. Summing up

Despite the Covid-19 situation, Lockerbie Wildlife Trust and Eskrigg Reserve are still functioning. Virtual Committee meetings have replaced normal ones. Activities and Events have had to be cancelled but the Reserve paths and Woodland Walks have been maintained and remain open to the public, thus providing the local community with a valuable resource.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Trust over the past year. This includes Sir John Buchanan-Jardine and his staff on Castle Milk and Corrie Estates, all the volunteers who have given their time to assist with events, maintenance and fundraising, and the members of the Trust's Executive Committee for their support, encouragement and hard work again this year.

Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)

Date: 6 September 2020



Signed by the Chairman on behalf of the LWT Trustees at the 2020 AGM:

Date: 30 September 2020



Annual Report 2019–20

Part 2 – Treasurer’s Report

Notes on the Annual Receipts and Payments Account Summary

Sources of Income (Receipts)	2018–2019	2019–2020		
1. Membership				
Honorary	7	7		
Family members	8	6		
Senior Citizens	46	42		
Adult members	12	12		
Junior members	0	0		
Total membership	73	67	Down 6	
2. Donations				
Cash (inc. D&G TTL & S. B.)	£2,916.89	£2,801.44	Down £115.45	
Reserve Donations Posts	£ 706.96	£ 266.66	Down £440.30*	Closure/Squirrels
Charity Boxes in pubs	£ 397.83	£ 141.51	Down £256.32*	Pub Closures
PayPal	£ 411.07	£ 196.77	Down £214.30*	Closure/Squirrels
3. Coffee Mornings	£1,094.90	£ 436.30	Down £658.60*	Cancellation
4. Christmas Stalls	£ 740.81	£1,684.29	Up £943.48	Better organised
5. Gala collection	£ 502.72	-	Down £502.72*	Cancellation

Note 1: The approximate loss of income* *partly* due to the Covid-19 pandemic is £2,000 in the past year. This is more than compensated for, this year, by the Rates support grant of £10,000. However, the effects of the pandemic may be felt in the years to come as well.

Note 2: Another reason for the drop in donations is the ongoing problem we have with the person from Dumfries who is hand feeding the squirrels in the woods near the Reserve. The net result of her actions is a drastic drop in the number of red squirrels visiting the Reserve and the negative effect that is having on visitor numbers and their enjoyment.

Note 3: The £7,000 transferred to the Project Account is to boost the contingency fund in the event the Trust has to replace equipment and pay for future repairs. In the near future the Trust will receive a bill for approximately £4,000 from the joiner who is constructing the new East Hide.

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

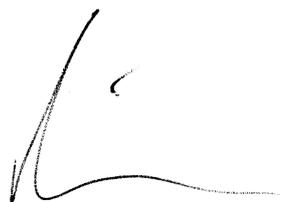
Scottish Charity Number SC005538

Receipt and Payments Account Summary						
2018–2019 & 2019–2020						
Trust Address: 12 Douglas Terrace, Lockerbie, DG11 2DZ						
	General Account		Project Account		Summary	Summary
Receipts	2018–2019	2019–2020	2018–2019	2019–2020	2018–2019	2019–2020
	from 01.09.18	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.18	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.18	from 01.09.19
	to 31.08.19	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.19	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.19	to 31.08.20
Memberships	£826.00	£635.00	-	-	£826.00	£635.00
Donations – Cash	£2,916.89	£2,421.44	£6,600.00	-	£9,516.89	£2,421.44
Donations – Posts	£706.96	£266.66	-	-	£706.96	£266.66
Donations – Ch. boxes	£397.83	£141.51	-	-	£397.83	£141.51
Donation D&G TT Lens	-	£300.00	-	-	-	£300.00
Donation Scot. Badgers	-	£80.00	-	-	-	£80.00
PayPal donation	£411.07	£196.77	-	-	£411.07	£196.77
Rate Support Grant	-	£10,000.00	-	-	-	£10,000.00
Entrance fees	£158.00	£122.00	-	-	£158.00	£122.00
Raffle	£163.50	£129.50	-	-	£163.50	£129.50
Nut race	£640.00	£660.00	-	-	£640.00	£660.00
Coffee mornings	£1,094.90	£436.30	-	-	£1,094.90	£436.30
Christmas Stalls	£740.81	£1,684.29	-	-	£740.81	£1,684.29
Quiz Night	-	£221.75	-	-	-	£221.75
Reserve Open Day	£85.26	-	-	-	£85.26	-
Sale of calendars	£1,658.00	£1,646.12	-	-	£1,658.00	£1,646.12
Calendar sponsors	£660.00	£805.00	-	-	£660.00	£805.00
Postage	-	£8.64	-	-	-	£8.64
Sale of T-shirts	£30.00	-	-	-	£30.00	-
Sale of Bird Boxes	£50.00	-	-	-	£50.00	-
Sale cards, notelets, tags	£397.60	£434.20	-	-	£397.60	£434.20
Sale of nuts, seeds & fruit	£99.35	£24.00	-	-	£99.35	£24.00
Sale of logs	£40.00	£40.00	-	-	£40.00	£40.00
Gala collection	£502.72	-	-	-	£502.72	-
Nuts Competition	£168.00	£40.00	-	-	£168.00	£40.00
Legacy	£1,051.40	-	-	-	£1,051.40	-
HMRC – Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Proj. A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Gen. A/C	-	-	£5,000.00	£7,000.00	£5,000.00	£7,000.00
Total	£12,798.29	£20,293.18	£11,600.00	£7,000.00	£24,398.29	£27,293.18

Signed by Independent Examiner:

Date:

15/9/2020



Signed by Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2020 AGM:

Date: 30 September 2020

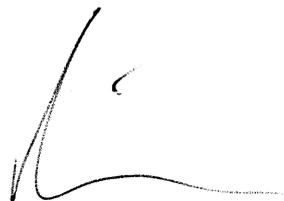


Payments	General Account		Project Account		Summary	Summary
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2018-2019	2019-2020	2018-2019	2019-2020
	from 01.09.18 to 31.08.19	from 01.09.19 to 31.08.20	from 01.09.18 to 31.08.19	from 01.09.19 to 31.08.20	from 01.09.18 to 31.08.19	from 01.09.19 to 31.08.20
Ironmongery	£109.38	£356.46	-	-	£109.38	£356.46
Town Hall bookings	£132.00	£32.50	-	-	£132.00	£32.50
Donation LA	£30.00	£35.00	-	-	£30.00	£35.00
Speakers' expenses	£40.00	£80.00	-	-	£40.00	£80.00
Solway Agriculture	£2,263.90	£2,043.00	-	-	£2,263.90	£2,043.00
Fire extinguisher service	£30.00	-	-	-	£30.00	-
D&G Media	£99.00	£118.00	-	-	£99.00	£118.00
Dalgliesh – serv. & repair	£421.72	-	-	-	£421.72	-
Grange Q. path gravel	-	-	£1,904.21	£1,039.20	£1,904.21	£1,039.20
M.W.Plant – terram	-	-	£450.00	-	£450.00	-
Paterson & Sons	£45.00	-	£8,142.00	-	£8,187.00	-
Welded PVC	-	-	£521.40	-	£521.40	-
Galloway Tool Hire	-	-	£1,748.60	-	£1,748.60	-
A. Thomson (Blacksmith)	-	-	£319.50	-	£319.50	-
NatSol	£56.40	£110.40	-	-	£56.40	£110.40
Rent	£100.00	£100.00	-	-	£100.00	£100.00
Printing T-shirts	£26.28	-	-	-	£26.28	-
Secretary's expenses	£41.28	£12.98	-	-	£41.28	£12.98
Insurance policies	£1,054.92	£900.16	-	-	£1,054.92	£900.16
Res. management exp.	£848.28	£1,078.28	-	-	£848.28	£1,078.28
Refund Manager's exp.	-	-	£86.89	-	£86.89	-
Printing	£2,475.72	£1,913.95	-	-	£2,475.72	£1,913.95
Transfer to Proj. A/C	£5,000.00	£7,000.00	-	-	£5,000.00	£7,000.00
Transfer to Gen. A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	£12,773.88	£13,780.73	£13,172.60	£1,039.20	£25,970.89	£14,819.93
Receipts minus payments for year	+£24.41	+£6,512.45	-£1,572.60	+£5,960.80	-£1,548.19	+£12,473.25
Balance brought forward	£6,855.24	£6,879.65	£10,817.02	£9,244.42	£17,672.26	£16,124.07
Balance in Bank Acc.	£6,879.65	£13,392.10	£9,244.42	£15,205.22	£16,124.07	£28,597.32
*Uncleared cheques		*£50.00				*£50
Bal. to carry forward	£6,879.65	£13,442.10	£9,244.42	£15,205.22	£16,124.07	£28,647.32

Signed by Independent Examiner:

Date:

15/9/2020



Signed by Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2020 AGM:

Date: 25 September 2020



Summary:

Despite the problems already mentioned, we finish the year with a healthy credit balance over all of £28,647.32 – up £12,523.25 on last year. This increase is largely due to the Government/Council grant of £10,000, without which the Trust would still have increased its credit balance by £2,523.25. This shows that Trust continues to demonstrate good financial management.

This report has been prepared by me on behalf of the Trustees. I wish to thank our Treasurer, Kathryn Hughes, once again, for her meticulous book keeping and the clarity of the Receipts and Payments statements.

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

Executive Committee Members and Trustees for 2019–2020

Sir John Buchanan-Jardine – President
Bobby Smith – Honorary Vice-president
Duncan Ford – Honorary Vice-president

David Hughes – Chairman
Freda Seddon – Vice Chairman
Alan Elkington – Minute Secretary
Kathy Davidson & Norah Muirhead – Events Secretary
John Reid and Jim Rae – Membership Secretary
Kathryn Hughes – Treasurer
Sybille Spägele – IT coordinator
Jim Rae – Reserve Manager

I would like to thank the members of the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust and the volunteers who helped with the various fund-raising events, all the people in the area who supported these events and the local businesses that have provided financial and in-kind support. Thank you all.

I commend this report to you, the members of the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust.

Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager):

Date: 7 September 2020



Signed by the Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2020 AGM:

Date: 30 September 2020



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

I am reporting on the accounts of the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust (SC005338) for its financial year that ended on 31 August 2020, and which are set out in the accompanying Trustees' Annual Report.

The charity's trustees were responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees considered that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations did not apply. It was my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters came to my attention.

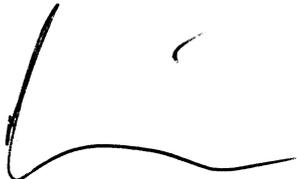
My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Alistair James Stevenson**

Signature:



Relevant Professional qualification/professional body: **Solicitor**

Address: **55 High Street
Lockerbie
DG11 2JJ**

Date:

15/9/2020