



Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

(Scottish Charity Number 005538)

Annual Report 2020–2021

Part 1 – Trust Events and Reserve Activities

1. The 32nd AGM

This was held as a Zoom Meeting on Wednesday 30th September 2020 and was followed by an Open Forum to give members an opportunity to make comments or raise any issues of concern.

2. LWT Committee Meetings

All committee meetings were conducted as Zoom Meetings and will continue to be until further notice.

3. Outdoor Reserve Events in the Autumn of 2020

Instead of organising the usual indoor winter talks programme, the Trust ran two outdoor events:

a. Family Halloween Hunt on October 31st

Twenty-five families braved the wet and windy weather on the Saturday to join the Halloween Hunt, organised by Lockerbie Wildlife Trust and supervised by members of the Trust and Lockerbie and District Rotary Club. The families arrived at ten-minute intervals and maintained social distancing throughout. They were then photographed in their imaginative costumes and with their creatively carved and decorated lanterns for the two competitions before setting off on a Quiz Trail, to identify local birds and spot a range of Halloween objects.



b. Lockerbie Writers Poetry Safari 16th to 22nd November 2020

Members of the Lockerbie Writers Group had previously been given a guided tour of Eskrigg Reserve and Woodland Walks with a view to inspire the members to write some poetry. The winning poems were displayed around a Poetry Trail during Book Week Scotland for visitors to read and enjoy.

4. Spring Talks Programme

Having cancelled the usual talks programme between October and December 2020 because of the Covid Pandemic, the Executive Committee decided to organise Zoom meetings for members during the spring of 2021. These were quite well attended and enjoyed by all.

Jan. 2021 "Birds and Beasties of the Rain Forests of Costa Rica"
 by John and Jean Robson.

Feb. 2021 "Nature's Nasties"
 by Duncan Ford.

Mar. 2021 "Photographing Wildlife during Lockdown"
 by Mick Durham

5. Reserve Management

a. Maintenance

The Reserve Manager, Jim Rae, would like to thank all the people who helped maintain the roads, hardcore paths, woodland walks, hides, shelter, compost toilet, centre, posts, jetty, streams, ditches and pond over the past year.

Between September 2020 and April 2021, the Reserve Manager worked alone or with only one other adult volunteer (Steven Dalgliesh). Following the government's easing of restrictions in April 2021, other volunteers were able to help, albeit within certain guidelines.

These other volunteers included (in alphabetical order of surname): Zander Beeton, Jake Creighton, Jessica Gillan, David Hughes, Kathryn Hughes, Anne Legg, Alexandros Leontiades, Norah Muirhead, Zack Nicholson, Jack Pritchard, Anna Spägele, Sybille Spägele, Graeme Urquhart and Dale Willis.

Thanks are also due to Ross Gemmell (Dumfries and Galloway Countryside Ranger) for cutting the grass and reeds at the sides of the Northern Loop where it forms part of the Annandale Way and for felling and cutting up two wind-blown Birch trees.

b. Kingfisher Hide (replacing the East Hide)

In September and October 2020, Scott McLean (Joiner), assisted by James McLean and Chris Taylor, erected the new Kingfisher Hide. Due to a shortage of roofing materials it had only a temporary roof. The metal roof was eventually fitted to the hide by Alan Thomson (Blacksmith) in February 2021.

c. Pondlife

On the eighth of January 2021, the pair of Mute Swans were attacked by someone's dog. The male swan was badly shaken and flew off two days later. The female swan was seriously injured in one leg and could not fly off. The pen continued to struggle, but showed gradual improvement over the next few months. However, in mid-May, it took a turn for the worse and the Reserve Manager called in the SSPCA and had the swan taken to the Barony Wildlife Hospital for treatment. The swan was quite traumatised and started to pluck its own feathers. By mid-July the swan had improved to the point where it was able to return to the Reserve. However, it has not managed to take an exercise flight since.

The pond almost dried up again during the long dry summer of 2021. It was hoped that, during the dry spell, the pond could be drained and the accumulated silt could be dug out. Unfortunately, until the remaining swan can fly again and go elsewhere, digging out the pond is not an option.

d. Red Squirrels

The number of red squirrels visiting the Reserve is still very low because the woman from Dumfries is still coming and hand-feeding the squirrels in woods nearby. The Wildlife Liaison Officer in the local Police Force still refuses to do anything about it even though the woman's activities are illegal.

e. Wildlife Records

During this past year, 16 new species have been identified in Eskrigg Nature Reserve and Woodland Walks. These included: 3 birds, 5 fungi, 6 moths, 2 other insects.

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. Covid-19 control measures

Since the easing of the Government regulations in April 2021, the hides, centre and toilet have been open to the public between 8.00am and 5.00pm provided certain precautions/rules are obeyed. These rules are displayed on posters at the front of each building. Hand sanitizer, paper towels and waste bins are now provided at each location. In general, visitors have been very good at sticking to the rules and observing social distancing. At other times of the day, the toilet can be accessed in emergency by phoning the Reserve Manager to obtain the access code for the key guard. The Reserve Manager can then clean the toilet before it is next used.

g. Grants

In March 2021, the Reserve Manager applied to Visit Scotland for a grant of £5,000 to help cover some of the expected income loss due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. On the 18th of March 2021 the Trust received £8,000 from Visit Scotland. The extra £3,000 was very welcome and would be put towards the next phase of the Trust's 'Access For All' project.

g. Reserve Code of Conduct

There have been a number of incidents of unacceptable behaviour this past year.

- In December 2020, there was a case of Sheep Worrying in a field to the west of the Woodland Walks. The culprit was never identified.
- In March 2021, some inebriated teenagers smashed up Dod Gass's bench seat. Many thanks to Alastair Gordon who rebuilt the seat.
- Also In March 2021, someone broke the keyguard at the compost toilet. Many thanks to the couple from Mouswald who donated a replacement keyguard.
- In June 2021, someone smashed a board on the side of the shelter. It was repaired immediately.
- Also in June, someone broke into the Red Squirrel Hide, but no damage was done.
- On various occasions, someone pasted stickers onto information boards and other structures around the Reserve and Woodland Walks - these had to be carefully cleaned off without damaging the boards.
- Someone also deliberately put superglue in some of the padlocks at various times. Each time the padlocks had to be cut off with heavy duty wire cutters and then replaced.
- Every so often, someone steals the window fittings from the Red Squirrel Hide.
- Every day, a few dog walkers fail to clean up their dog's droppings.
- Every day, some people discard cigarette ends or other forms of litter.

The Reserve Manager has to do a weekly clean-up of dog dirt and litter around the paths.

6. Working with Nurseries, Schools, Colleges and Community Groups in 2020 - 2021

All work with these groups ceased due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

We hope to be allowed to restart some activities in September 2021.

7. Eskrigg Reserve Annual Programme of Events in 2020 - 2021

All normal educational events, including Fungal Forays and the Annual Nut Race, were cancelled.

8. Members of the RY Youth Organisation have been granted permission to visit the Reserve in the evenings from September 2021 onwards, provided they follow the current guidelines.

9. Promoting the Trust and Eskrigg Reserve

During the past year Jim Rae gave Zoom talks to:

26 January 2021 - Stewartry and Dumfries U3A - "Eskrigg Nature Reserve"

26 April 2021 - Lockerbie and District Rotary Club - "Mammals, UK, D&G & Eskrigg"

2 August 2021 - Lockerbie and District Rotary Club - "July Moths at Eskrigg"

10. Communicating with Members and the general public

- a. The hard copies of the Eskrigg Reserve Monthly News Bulletin were no longer available in the Lockerbie Library, Dryfesdale Lodge Visitors' Centre or Eskrigg Centre during the past year to avoid different people handling them. Each month the Bulletin is still 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. All coming events will be posted on the Trust's website: www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk. Many thanks to Sybille Spägle 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. A people counter has recently been purchased and will be installed as soon as possible. Over the past year, the number of people visiting the Reserve has remained high. 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, on the Reserve's Facebook page or in the Annual Calendar.

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 remained open to the public, thus providing the local community with a valuable resource. The hides and Eskrigg Centre are once again open, but with recommended safety precautions in place. The provision of new information and interpretation boards will help to compensate for the lack of organised educational group activities.

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 maintenance work and the members of the Trust's Executive Committee for their support, encouragement and hard work again this year.

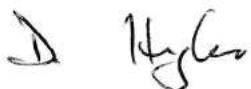
Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)

Date: 5th September 2021



Signed by the Chairman on behalf of the LWT Trustees at the 2021 AGM:

Date: 29th September 2021



Annual Report 2019–20

Part 2 – Treasurer's Report

Notes on the Annual Receipts and Payments Account Summary

Main Sources of Income	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
1. Membership				
Honorary	7	7	7	
Family members	8	6	8	
Senior Citizens	46	42	51	
Adult members	12	12	17	
Junior members	0	0	0	
Total membership	73	67	83	
2. Donations				Compared to 2018/2019
Cash	£2,916.89	£2,801.44	£2,205.10	- £ 711.79
Reserve Donations Posts	£ 706.96	£ 266.66	£ 315.51	- £ 391.45
Charity Boxes	£ 397.83	£ 141.51	£ 44.47	- £ 353.36
PayPal	£ 411.07	£ 196.77	£1,367.09	+£ 956.02
3. Coffee Mornings	£1,094.90	£ 436.30	£ 0.00	- £1,094.90
4. Christmas Stalls	£ 740.81	£1,684.29	£ 0.00	- £ 740.81
5. Gala collection	£ 502.72	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	- £ 502.72
6. Nut Race	£ 640.00	£ 660.00	£ 0.00	- £ 640.00
Totals	£6,771.18	£5,526.97	£3,932.17	- £3,479.01

Note: The number of talks in 2020-2021 was half the usual number, so the Management Committee decided to halve the membership fee for that year.

Note 1: The loss of income* partly due to the Covid-19 pandemic:
- in 2020-2021 (compared to 2 years ago) was approximately £3,500

The Visit Scotland grant of £8,000 covered the £3,500 loss of income due to Covid and helped to pay for the ongoing 'Access For All' developments (see below). That allowed visitors to learn about the wildlife and their habitats for themselves rather than by attending educational workshops that could not take place. It also covered the cost of additional equipment for monitoring the increased number of visitors.

'Access For All' developments	Costs
1. Magnification posts	£ 888.00
2. Osprey Signs	£1,956.00
3. People Counter	£ 851.94
4. Security Camera for the Centre	£ 115.97
Total	£3,811.91

Note 2: As with last year, 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 £5,000 donated in March 2018 for the reconstruction of the East Hide (now called the Kingfisher Hide) was spent this year:

Joiner's Costs	£4,797.00
Blacksmith Costs	£ 230.64
	£5,027.64

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

Scottish Charity Number SC005538

Receipt and Payments Account Summary							
2019–2020 & 2020–2021							
Trust Address: 12 Douglas Terrace, Lockerbie, DG11 2DZ							
General Account		Project Account		Summary		Summary	
Receipts	2019–2020	2020–2021	2019–2020	2020–2021	2019–2020	2020–2021	
	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.120	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.20	
	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.21	
Memberships	£635.00	£472.00	-	-	£635.00	£472.00	
Donations – Cash	£2,421.44	£2,205.10	-	-	£2,421.44	£2,205.10	
Donations – Posts	£266.66	£315.51	-	-	£266.66	£315.51	
Donations – Ch. boxes	£141.51	£44.47	-	-	£141.51	£44.47	
Donation D&G TT Lens	£300.00	-	-	-	£300.00	-	
Donation Scot. Badgers	£80.00	-	-	-	£80.00	-	
PayPal donation	£196.77	£1,367.09	-	-	£196.77	£1,367.09	
Rate Support Grant	£10,000.00	-	-	-	£10,000.00	-	
Visit Scotland Grant	-	£8,000.00	-	-	-	£8,000.00	
Entrance fees	£122.00	-	-	-	£122.00	-	
Raffle	£129.50	-	-	-	£129.50	-	
Nut race	£660.00	-	-	-	£660.00	-	
Coffee mornings	£436.30	-	-	-	£436.30	-	
Christmas Stalls	£1,684.29	-	-	-	£1,684.29	-	
Quiz Night	£221.75	-	-	-	£221.75	-	
Halloween Event	-	£147.85	-	-	-	£147.85	
Sale of calendars	£1,646.12	£1,912.50	-	-	£1,646.12	£1,912.50	
Calendar sponsors	£805.00	£712.50	-	-	£805.00	£712.50	
Postage	£8.64	£4.50	-	-	£8.64	£4.50	
Sale of Tablet	-	£9.00	-	-	-	£9.00	
Sale of Christmas Cards	-	£114.00	-	-	-	£114.00	
Sale cards, notelets, tags	£434.20	£35.00	-	-	£434.20	£35.00	
Sale of nuts, seeds & fruit	£24.00	£70.00	-	-	£24.00	£70.00	
Sale of logs	£40.00	-	-	-	£40.00	-	
Gala collection	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nuts Competition	£40.00	-	-	-	£40.00	-	
Refund of cheques	-	£50.00	-	-	-	£50.00	
HMRC – Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Transfer from Proj. A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Transfer from Gen. A/C	-	-	£7,000.00	-	£7,000.00	-	
Total	£20,293.18	£15,459.52	£7,000.00	£0	£27,293.18	£15,459.52	

Signed by Independent Examiner:

Date: 17/9/2021

Signed by Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2021 AGM:

Date: 29th September 2021

Payments	General Account		Project Account		Summary	Summary
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021
	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.19	from 01.09.20
	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.20	to 31.08.21
Ironmongery	£356.46	£536.08	-	-	£356.46	£536.08
Town Hall bookings	£32.50	-	-	-	£32.50	-
Donation LA	£35.00	-	-	-	£35.00	-
Speakers' expenses	£80.00	-	-	-	£80.00	-
Solway Agriculture	£2,043.00	£2,532.45	-	-	£2,043.00	£2,532.45
Fire extinguisher service	-	£132.60	-	-	-	£132.60
D&G Media	£118.00	-	-	-	£118.00	-
Border Signs	-	£216.00	-	-	-	£216.00
Grange Q. path gravel	-	-	£1,039.20	£265.03	£1,039.20	£265.03
Osprey Company	-	£1,956.00	-	-	-	£1,956.00
Magnifiers	-	-	-	£888.00	-	£888.00
Blacksmith	-	-	-	£230.64	-	£230.64
Joiner (S. McLean)	-	-	-	£4,797.00	-	£4,797.00
Woodwork (A. Gordon)	-	£65.44	-	-	-	£65.44
Flooring	-	-	-	£288.00	-	£288.00
Galloway Tool Hire	-	£144.18	-	-	-	£144.18
Mink Police	-	£71.40	-	-	-	£71.40
NatSol	£110.40	-	-	-	£110.40	-
Rent	£100.00	£100.00	-	-	£100.00	£100.00
People Counter	-	£851.94	-	-	-	£851.94
Secretary's expenses	£12.98	-	-	-	£12.98	-
Insurance policies	£900.16	£923.79	-	-	£900.16	£923.79
Res. management exp.	£1,078.28	£1,559.54	-	-	£1,078.28	£1,559.54
Refund Manager's exp.	-	£295.37	-	-	-	£295.37
Printing	£1,913.95	£1,673.96	-	-	£1,913.95	£1,673.96
Transfer to Proj. A/C	£7,000.00	-	-	-	£7,000.00	-
Transfer to Gen. A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	£13,780.73	£10,987.35	£1,039.20	£6,468.67	£14,819.93	£17,527.42
Receipts minus payments for year	+£6,512.45	+£4,472.17	+£5,960.80	-£6,468.67	+£12,473.25	-£1,996.50
Balance brought forward	£6,879.65	£13,392.10	£9,244.42	£15,205.22	£16,124.07	£28,597.32
Balance in Bank Acc.	£13,392.10	£17,864.27	£15,205.22	£8,736.55	£28,597.32	£26,600.82
*Uncleared cheques	*£50.00				*£50	
Bal. to carry forward	£13,442.10	£17,864.27	£15,205.22	£8,736.55	£28,647.32	£26,600.82

Signed by Independent Examiner:

Date: 17/9/21

Signed by Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2021 AGM:

Date: 29 September 2021

Summary:

Despite the problems already mentioned, we finish the year with a healthy credit balance over all of £26,600.82 – albeit down approximately £2,000 from last year's credit balance of £28,647.32. This satisfactory situation is partly due to the Government grant of £8,000 but also reflects good financial management by the Trust.

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 2020–2021

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

Chairman – David Hughes
Vice Chairman – John Reid
Minute Secretary – Position vacant
Events Secretary – Kathy Davidson & Norah Muirhead
Membership Secretary – Jim Rae
Treasurer – Kathryn Hughes
IT coordinator – Sybille Spägle
Reserve Manager – Jim Rae
Other Committee Members – Steven Dalgliesh, John Robson and Gary Shanks

I would like to thank the members of the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust, all volunteers 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: 5 September 2021



Signed by the Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2021 AGM:

Date: 29 September 2021



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 31st August 2021, 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: **John C. Stewart, OBE CPFA**

Signature:



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

Address: **HIGHVIEW, MARJORIE BANKS, LOCHMADEN
LOCKERBIE DG11 1DH**

Date: **17/9/2021**