



Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

(Scottish Charity Number 005538)

Annual Report 2021–2022

Part 1 – Trust Events and Reserve Activities

1. The 33rd AGM

This was held as a Zoom Meeting on Wednesday 29th September 2021 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

The Trust planned two events in November 2021, a ‘**Poppy Walk**’ and a ‘**Diabetes Walk**’. Unfortunately the Diabetes Walk had to be cancelled because of Storms Arwen and Barra.

The Poppy Walk

On the 13th and 14th of November, a series of Poppy Displays created by members of the ‘**Local Ladies Craft Group**’ were put up round a trail at Eskrigg Reserve and Woodland Walks, to mark ‘**Remembrance**’.

The picture on the right shows the ladies assembling the ‘Poppy Cascade’ which was erected on the side of Eskrigg Centre.

Activity sheets were available for children at the Lockerbie and District Rotary Club trailer in the Reserve Car Park. The event was well supported and the £740 raised were split between ‘Help For Heroes’ and ‘Eskrigg Nature Reserve’.



At Easter 2022, the Trust organized a number of events. However, the turnout for these was quite low. The topics included **Moth Trapping**, **Woodland Minibeasts**, a **Spring Flower Ramble**, a **Stream Study**, and a **Scavenger Hunt and Quiz**.

At the start of May 2022, the ‘**Local Ladies Craft Group**’ created a wonderful display, entitled ‘**A Wildflower Meadow**’, which was put up on the outer north wall of the Eskrigg Centre. The display was so well received by visitors to the Reserve that it was left up until the end of June.



4. Annual Talks Programme

These talks took place as Zoom Meetings.

- Oct. 2021 **“Pine Martens in Dumfries and Galloway”**
by **Stephanie Johnstone** (D & G Pine Marten Group)
- Nov. 2021 **“Reptiles in South-west Scotland”**
by **Mark Pollitt** (South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre)
- Dec. 2021 **“Peatland Connections”**
by **Jayne Murdoch** (Crichton Carbon Centre)
- Jan. 2022 **“The Work of the South of Scotland Wildlife Hospital”**
by **Lorna Kempzell** (Manager / Education Officer) – **Meeting Cancelled**
- Feb. 2022 Members’ Night
“Damsels and Dragonflies” by **Jean Robson**
“Seabirds of Scotland’s East Coast” by **John Robson**
- Mar. 2022 **“Underwater Life in the Solway”**
Video recording by the **Solway Firth Partnership**

5. Reserve Management

a. Maintenance

The Reserve Manager, Jim Rae, would like to thank all the volunteers who helped maintain the roads, hardcore paths, woodland walks, hides, shelter, compost toilet, centre, posts, jetty, streams, ditches and pond over the past year. These volunteers included Annabelle Burnett, Jake Creighton, Tom Hargreaves, David Hughes, Kathryn Hughes, Joe Moore, Norah Muirhead, Zack Nicholson, Jack Pritchard, Gordon Reid, Sybille Spägele and Graeme Urquhart.

Thanks are also due to Stuart Black who felled and cut up a number of trees following Storm Arwen, 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, Peter Hands for installing the solar panels and battery storage system, Doug Luxton for felling the Ash trees that had Ash dieback, Alastair Gordon for the manufacture of timber signs and Scott McLean for making repairs to the Red Squirrel Hide and Eskrigg Centre.

b. Pondlife

On the 16th of April 2022, the male Mute Swan (cob) spent over 3 hours trying to chase away several Greylag geese. In the process he totally exhausted himself, rested his head on a tree root at the side of the pond and never raised it again. The female swan (pen) managed to look after the nest and her eggs for a week but then gave up and flew off.

The pond has still to be drained and dug out. This will have to wait until the developing wildfowl have fledged and there is a sufficiently long dry spell.

c. Red Squirrels

The number of Red Squirrels visiting the Reserve is still very low. Seven different Red Squirrels were seen in the Reserve during one day in July 2022, but very few have been seen since. This could be because this is a Mast Year and there is so much food available in the woods that the squirrels do not need to come to the feeders.

d. New Species

During this past year, many new species have been identified in Eskrigg Nature Reserve and Woodland Walks. These included: 10 fungi, 2 slime moulds, 2 hoverflies and many plant species. This past year Jim Rae has been concentrating on getting to know the flowering plants in order to put up posters round a trail to help other get to know them as well. Although the Eskrigg Flora Trail had to be abandoned this year because of the closure of the Woodland Walks, Jim has continued to monitor the plant species each month. During the past five months he has identified 29 plant species that were not on the Trust database.

A full list of the fungi, slime moulds, plants and animal species is available on the Trust's website – www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk.

e. Reserve and Woodland Walk closures

Following Storm Arwen on the 26th of November 2021 and Storm Barra on the 7th of December 2021, the Reserve had to be closed for a short period until the trees that had been blown down into the Reserve had been cut and cleared. The Reserve was reopened on the 14th of December.

Between the 18th of April 2022 and the 2nd of May 2022, the Reserve had to be closed again while the Sitka Spruce plantation along the western boundary of the Reserve was cut down. The felled timber was removed from the area and stacked beside the forest road. Trees were also being harvested in the middle of the wood west of the forest road and this meant that, for Health and Safety reasons, the Woodland Walks were 'out of bounds'. Since there is a very poor market for Scots Pine at present, Castle Milk and Corrie Estate is having great difficulty finding a buyer for much of the timber and the Woodland Walks may have to stay closed for some time to come.

f. Wildlife Hides

Since the easing of the Government regulations, the hides, centre and toilet have been open to the public between 8.00am and 5.00pm.

g. Grants

This year the Trust again received financial support from Visit Scotland in the form of a grant of £6,800 to help cover some of the expected income loss due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Trust also applied to the DUMFRIESSHIRE EAST COMMUNITY BENEFIT GROUP (DECBG) - EWE HILL 16 FUND for a grant specifically to install a Solar Panel System and defibrillator cabinet at the Eskrigg Centre. The solar panels, LED lights, defibrillator cabinet and battery storage system were installed by Peter Hands. The Trust is now able to hold events in the evenings at the Eskrigg Centre without the background noise of the generator. The new system is also used for charging the batteries used for moth trapping. The defibrillator, on the outside wall of the Centre, is registered with The Circuit and available for use in emergency at any time .



g. Reserve Code of Conduct

There have been very few incidents of unacceptable behaviour this past year.

- One group of young men lit a barbeque on the steps leading up to the Kingfisher Hide which melted the non-slip step cover and charred the timber underneath.
- Now and again someone interferes with the Duck Feeder and wheat is scattered all over the place.
- Every day, a few dog walkers fail to clean up their dogs' droppings.
- Every day, some people discard cigarette ends or other forms of litter.

The Reserve Manager still 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 2021 – 2022

2021

- 3 Sep. The **RH Youth Group (Pathfinders and Troopers)** visited the Reserve.
16 Sep. Members of the **Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society** were taken on a guided tour of the Reserve and Woodland Walks.

2022

- 10 Mar. **Stewartry U3A**, guided tour of the Reserve and some Woodland Walks.
22 Mar. **Annandale Red Squirrel Group** catch-up meeting at Eskrigg Reserve.
6 Apr. **Danderhall Primary School, Edinburgh** - visit.
6 May **Murray Primary School, East Kilbride** - visit.*
11 May **Solway Vehicle Enthusiasts Club** - visit.
17 May **Lockerbie Ladies Craft Group** - visit.
2 Jun. **Lockerbie Gala and Riding of the Marches - Cornet's Lass Ride-out.**
16 Jun. **Castle Milk and Corrie Estate's Forest Plan Scoping Consultation.**
13 Jun. **Mount Cameron Primary School, East Kilbride** - visit.*

*Note: As a result of the closure of the Woodland Walks in South Turnmuir and Well Springs Plantations next to Eskrigg Reserve, these visiting school groups were taken on a guided tour of the Castle Loch, Lochmaben instead.

7. Eskrigg Reserve Programme of Events in 2021 – 2022

2021

13 & 14 Nov. **Poppy Walk**

20 Nov. **Diabetes Walk** (the event was intended to run for two weeks but had to be cut short due to Storm Arwen).

20 Nov. **LWT stall** at the “Turning on of the Christmas Lights”.

26 & 27 Nov. **LWT stall** at Tesco, Lockerbie.

2022

30 Jan. **RSPB Big Bird Watch** at Reserve.

27 Feb. **LWT Annual Nut Race.**

4 Apr. **Moth Trapping.**

7 Apr. **Woodland Minibeasts.**

12 Apr. **Spring Flower Ramble.**

14 Apr. **Stream Study.**

16 Apr. **Easter Scavenger Hunt and Quiz.**

26 Jul. **Moth Trapping.**

31 Aug. **Moth Trapping.**

8. Promoting the Trust and Eskrigg Reserve

2022

18 & 19 Jan. **ITV Border Life** recorded an interview with **Jim Rae**, the Reserve Manager, about Eskrigg Reserve and its contribution to the Annandale Way.

14 Mar. **Jim Rae** gave a talk to **Johnstonebridge WRI** about the changes that had been made at Eskrigg Reserve in recent years.

11 Aug. **Jim Rae** gave a talk to **Lockerbie Probus Club** about the changes that had taken place at the Reserve in the last seven years (since he last gave the club a talk).

9. Communicating with Members and the general public

a. Hard copies of the Eskrigg Reserve Monthly News Bulletin were not placed 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 was still posted on the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust website and sent to members and friends of the Trust who have an email address and had expressed a wish to be kept informed in this way.

b. All coming events will continue to be posted on the Trust's website. 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'.

10. Visitors to the Reserve:

The exact number of people visiting the Reserve each week is still not being recorded. The people counter is not working properly. Over the past year, the number of people visiting the Reserve has remained high despite the ongoing effects of Covid. The Reserve Manager is grateful to all the visiting 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.

11. Summing up

Despite Covid-19, Lockerbie Wildlife Trust and Eskrigg Reserve have, with a bit of support, returned to near normal operations. Virtual Committee meetings have replaced face to face ones for the time being. Monthly meetings from September to April at Lockerbie Town Hall will resume as hybrid meetings so that those who wish can attend via Zoom. Activities and Events at the Reserve will return to near normal once the Woodland Walks are re-opened. The new information and interpretation boards will remain in place. The programme of practical activities within the Reserve will be slightly reduced – there will be no pond dipping until the Reserve pond has been dug out and the pondlife populations have returned to normal. The Eskrigg Flora Trail will resume next year. Working with youngsters aiming for a Duke of Edinburgh Award, John Muir Trust Award or Saltire Award has already resumed, as has helping adults who have mental health issues get back to a normal way of life and employment.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Trust over the past year. This includes Sir John Buchanan-Jardine, Jamie Buchanan-Jardine and their staff on Castle Milk and Corrie Estates. Particular thanks to 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.

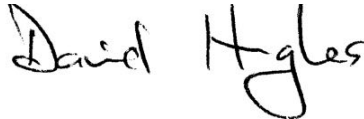
Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)

Date: 4th September 2022



Signed by the Chairman on behalf of the LWT Trustees at the 2022 AGM:

Date: 28th September 2022



Annual Report 2021–22
Part 2 – Treasurer’s Report

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

Scottish Charity Number SC005538

Receipt and Payments Account Summary						
2020-2021 & 2021-2022						
Trust Address: 12 Douglas Terrace, Lockerbie, DG11 2DZ						
	General Account		Project Account		Summary	Summary
Receipts	2020-2021	2021-2022	2020-2021	2021-2022	2020-2021	2021-2022
	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.21	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.21	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.21
	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.22	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.22	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.22
Memberships	£472.00	£705.00	-	-	£472.00	£705.00
Donations – Cash	£2,205.10	£3,160.65	-	-	£2,205.10	£3,160.65
Donations – Posts	£315.51	£425.63	-	-	£315.51	£425.63
Donations – Ch. boxes	£44.47	£45.80	-	-	£44.47	£45.80
PayPal donation	£1,367.09	£486.94	-	-	£1,367.09	£486.94
Visit Scotland Grant	£8,000.00	£6,800.00	-	-	£8,000.00	£6,800.00
Nut race	-	£622.00	-	-	-	£622.00
Halloween Event	£147.85	-	-	-	£147.85	-
Poppy Walk	-	£740.00	-	-	-	£740.00
Scavenger Hunt	-	£52.59	-	-	-	£52.59
Sale of calendars	£1,912.50	£2,311.00	-	-	£1,912.50	£2,311.00
Calendar sponsors	£712.50	£715.00	-	-	£712.50	£715.00
Postage	£4.50	-	-	-	£4.50	-
Sale of Tablet	£9.00	-	-	-	£9.00	-
Sale of Christmas Cards	£114.00	£444.00	-	-	£114.00	£444.00
Sale cards, notelets, tags	£35.00	£347.00	-	-	£35.00	£347.00
Sale of nuts, seeds & fruit	£70.00	-	-	-	£70.00	-
Sale of logs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gala Day Collection	-	£313.47	-	-	-	£313.47
Nuts Competition	-	£90.00	-	-	-	£90.00
Refund of cheques	£50.00	£85.65	-	-	£50.00	£85.65
Expenses received	-	£20.00	-	-	-	£20.00
DECBG SC10 Grant	-	-	-	£4,147.56	-	£4,147.56
Transfer from Proj. A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Gen. A/C	-	-	-	£500.00	-	£500.00
Total	£15,459.52	£17,364.73	£0	£4,647.56	£15,459.52	£22,012.29

Signed by Independent Examiner:

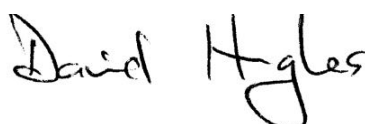
Date:

16/9/22



Signed by Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2022 AGM:


Date: 28th September 2022



Payments	General Account		Project Account		Summary	Summary
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2020-2021	2021-2022	2020-2021	2021-2022
	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.21	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.21	from 01.09.20	from 01.09.21
	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.22	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.22	to 31.08.21	to 31.08.22
D&W Ironmongery	£536.08	£354.67	-	-	£536.08	£354.67
Town Hall bookings	-	£30.00	-	-	-	£30.00
Donation LA	-	£35.00	-	-	-	£35.00
Solway Agriculture	£2,532.45	£3,354.80	-	-	£2,532.45	£3,354.80
Fire extinguisher service	£132.60	£30.00	-	-	£132.60	£30.00
Border Signs	£216.00	-	-	-	£216.00	-
Grange Q. path gravel	-	£282.30	£265.03	-	£265.03	£282.30
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	-
Sport & Trophy	-	£40.00	-	-	-	£40.00
Help For Heroes	-	£370.00	-	-	-	£370.00
R.C. Dagleish	-	596.40	-	-	-	596.40
Wonderwall	-	£1,033.20	-	-	-	£1,033.20
NatSol	-	£53.70	-	-	-	£53.70
Rent	£100.00	£100.00	-	-	£100.00	£100.00
People Counter	£851.94	-	-	-	£851.94	-
Secretary's expenses	-	£7.92	-	-	-	£7.92
Insurance policies	£923.79	-	-	-	£923.79	-
Peter Hands	-	-	-	£2,606.41	-	£2,606.41
Res. management exp.	£1,559.54	£3,371.01	-	£1,618.80	£1,559.54	£4,989.81
DECBG Refund	-	-	-	£410.35	-	£410.35
Refund Manager's exp.	£295.37	-	-	-	£295.37	-
Printing	£1,673.96	£2,572.55	-	-	£1,673.96	£2,572.55
Transfer to Proj. A/C	-	£500.00	-	-	-	£500
Transfer to Gen. A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	£10,987.35	£12,731.55	£6,468.67	£4,635.56	£17,456.02	£17,367.11
Receipts minus payments for year	+£4,472.17	+£4,633.18	-£6,468.67	+£12.00	-£1,996.50	£4,645.18
Balance brought forward	£13,392.10	£17,864.27	£15,205.22	£8,736.55	£28,597.32	£26,600.82
Balance in Bank Acc.	£17,864.27	£22,497.45	£8,736.55	£8,748.55	£26,600.82	£31,246.00
*Uncleared cheques				£410.35		
Bal. to carry forward	£17,864.27	£22,497.45	£8,736.55	£9,158.90	£26,600.82	£31,656.35

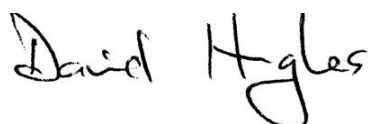
Signed by Independent Examiner:

Date:

16/9/22 

Signed by Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2022 AGM:

Date: 28 September 2022



Summary:

The credit balance this year is up approximately £5,000 on last year, at £31,656, when in fact we expected it to be down considerably. There are several reasons for this:

1. We had financial help in the form of the Visit Scotland Grant - £6,800
2. We had hoped to have the pond dug out this year, at a cost of several thousand pounds, but that had to be postponed.
3. Other projects that have been delayed because of Covid, or are in the pipeline are:
 - a. The installation of a storage container at the Reserve (we have yet to get approval from Castle Milk and Corrie Estates).
 - b. The Metal Food Store needs repaired.
 - c. The Red Squirrel Hide needs a metal roof like the Shelter, Kingfisher Hide and Centre.
 - d. Several bridges around the Woodland Walks need repaired or rebuilt.
 - e. We planned to meet some of the cost of buying a Liberty Buggy in order to take Carehome Residents round the Reserve and Woodland Walks, but the buggies have not yet been imported from the USA due to Covid.

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 2021–2022

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

Chairman - David Hughes
 Vice Chairman - John Reid
 Minute Secretary and IT Coordinator - Sybille Spägele
 Events Secretary - Norah Muirhead
 Membership Secretary and Reserve Manager - Jim Rae
 Treasurer - Kathryn Hughes

Other Committee Members - Steven Dalglish, Peter Hands, 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.

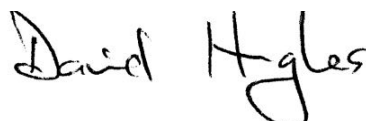
Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager):

Date: 4 September 2022



Signed by the Chairman on behalf of LWT Trustees at the 2022 AGM:

Date: 28 September 2022



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 2022, 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 LAW SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

Address: 55 HIGH STREET, LOCKERBIE, DG11 2JJ

Date: 16/9/22