## Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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

# Eskrigg Reserve November 2013 News Bulletin



Scottish Charity No: SC 005538



Frosty morning in the heathland area on the 4th.



Duck at morning feed on the 19th.

- 1. Views of the Reserve in November.
- 2. Confirmed wildlife sightings at the Reserve
  - a. Birds

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Collared Dove, Dunnock, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Grey Heron, Greylag Goose, Jay, Longtailed Tit, Magpie, Mallard, Merlin, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Raven, Robin, Sparrowhawk, Tawny Owl, Treecreeper, Wigeon, Willow Tit, Wood Pigeon, Wren.



#### b. Mammals

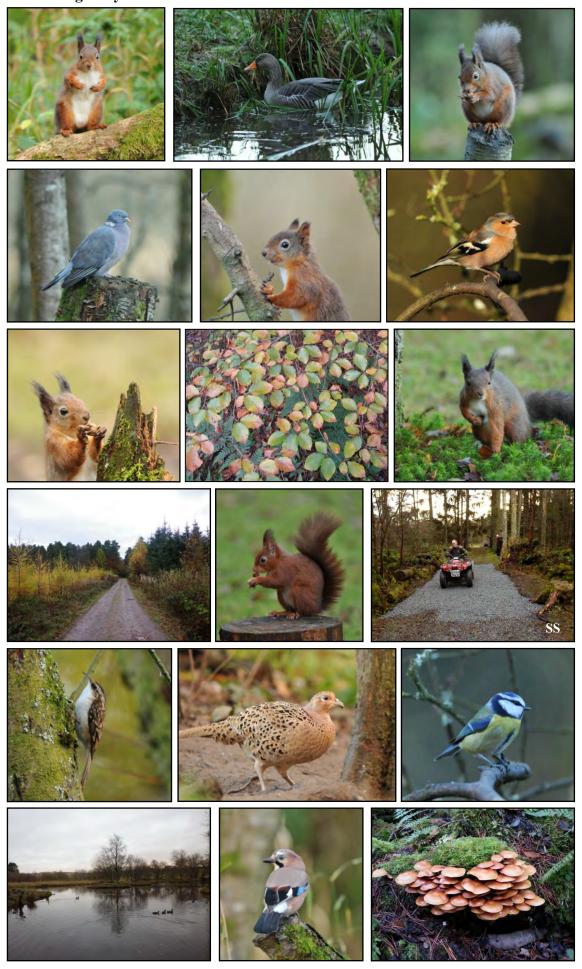
Bank Vole, Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Roe Deer, Stoat, Wood Mouse.

Wishing all readers a

# **Merry Christmas**

A reminder that Eskrigg Reserve is open every day.

### 3. October Photo-gallery



Photographs by Sybille Spägele (SS) and Jim Rae

#### 4. Activities at the Reserve during November.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> - Lantern Parade

The picture may not be in focus but captures the mood of the occasion. It was a beautiful, cloudless night with no moon. The Milky Way and a number of major constellations stood out clearly. The event was enjoyed by all.

#### 11th - Meeting with Vallance Drive Residents

Met with Hazel Caldwell, Lynn Black and another couple of residents of Vallance Drive to discuss proposed path upgrade, car park and all-user composting toilet. Held a follow-up meeting with Robert Lowther (D&G Council) to discuss proposed safety improvements to the play park at Isle Court.





13<sup>th</sup> - The Nith Walkers

A group of ramblers from Dumfries visited Eskrigg Reserve and had a refreshment break in Eskrigg Centre before exploring the woodland walks.

15<sup>th</sup> - Met with Joan McAlpine (MSP), Kelly Willacy and Andy Brown to discuss the proposed path upgrade, car park and all-user composting toilet. Joan was shown round the Reserve and, after learning about the proposals, was pleased to offer her support for the 'Access for All' project.





17<sup>th</sup> – Visit by Hawk's Head Photography
Eight wildlife photographers were brought along to the
Reserve to photograph the Red Squirrels by Kaleel Zibe
of Hawk's Head Photography (Newcastle Upon Tyne).

#### 5. Maintenance work during November.

- 9<sup>th</sup> E-Team (Drew Stewart, Justine Sommerville and Althaia Sommerville) raked the Reserve path and brashed the trees along the side of the feeder burn.
- **16<sup>th</sup> E-Team** (Megan Johnstone, Drew Stewart, Justine Sommerville, Althaia Sommerville and Erin Johnston) helped by raking up the cut grass after the sides of the feeder burn had been strimmed.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Ian Dunn helped with tree planting in Beattie's Clump (St. Mungo Primary forest classroom).
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Drew Stewart helped resurface part of the path behind the Reserve Shelter.

24<sup>th</sup> - Maintenance Day. Sybille Spägele and Neil Whitelaw continued the work to resurface part of the path behind the Reserve Shelter.





26<sup>th</sup> - Ian Dunn and Pamela Beeton removed a fallen tree from one woodland walk and then helped to fill a trench on another with gravel.

30<sup>th</sup> - E-Team (Drew Stewart, Justine Sommerville, Althaia

cut and removed a fallen tree from the burn side.

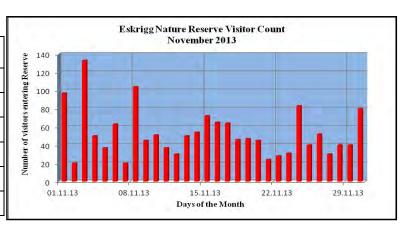


Photographs by Jim Rae

Sommerville and Erin Johnston) raked the Reserve path then

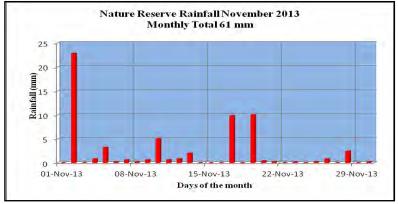
#### 6. Visitor Records

Month	Total number of Visitors	Daily Average Visitors
June 2013	1691	56
July 2013	1700	55
Aug. 2013	1587	51
Sept. 2013	1528	51
Oct. 2013	1937	62
Nov. 2013	1578	53



#### 7. Precipitation

Month	Rainfall (mm)
June 2013	69.2
July 2013	82
Aug. 2013	72.4
Sept. 2013	93
Oct. 2013	203.6
Nov. 2013	61



For more information call Jim Rae or visit our website.

Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)

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