

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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



Eskrigg Reserve

September 2019 News Bulletin

Scottish Charity No:
SC 005538

1. Swans on Eskrigg Pond (2nd September) and outside the Red Squirrel Hide (8th September).



2. Confirmed wildlife sightings at the Reserve during September.

a. Birds

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Collared Dove, Cormorant, Dunnock, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Goshawk, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, Grey Wagtail, Greylag Goose, House Sparrow, House Martin, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Lesser Redpoll, Little Grebe, Long-tailed Tit, Mallard, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Pied Wagtail, Raven, Red Kite, Robin, Rook, Siskin, Snipe, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Swallow, Treecreeper, Wood Pigeon, Wren.

b. Mammals

Bank Vole, **Grey Squirrel**, Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Roe Deer, Stoat, Woodmouse.

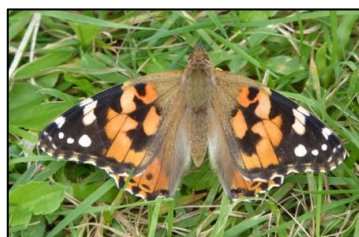
c. Reptiles and Amphibians

Frog, Toad.

d. Butterflies and Moths

Butterflies: Green-veined White, Large White, Painted Lady, Peacock, Red Admiral, Small Tortoiseshell, Small White.

Moths: Elephant Hawk-moth caterpillar, Silver Y, Twenty-plume Moth.



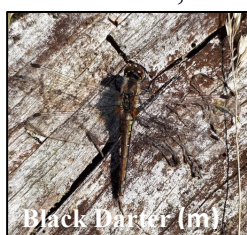
Painted Lady Butterfly



20 Plume Moth

e. Dragonflies

Black Darter, Common Darter, Common Hawker.



Black Darter (m)



Common Darter (f)



Elephant Hawk-moth caterpillar

Photographs by Jim Rae and Bob Glaister (BG)

3. Eskrigg Reserve September Photo-gallery



1st Row: Grey Veiled Amanita (DF), *Rhodocollybia butyracea* (DF), Brown Rollrim (JR), Blusher (SS)
 2nd Row: Blackening Brittlegill (JR), Sickener (JR), Dappled Webcap (JR), Wood Hedgehog (JR)
 3rd Row: Common Earthball (JR), Amethyst Deceiver (JR), Turkeytail (JR), Tawny Grisette (JR)
 4th Row: Chanterelle (JR), Charcoal Burner (JR), Scarletina Bolete (JR), *Lactarius quieticolor* (JR)
 5th Row: Cep (JR), Burnt Knight (JR), Plums and Custard (JR), Spotted Toughshank (JR)
 6th Row: Bay Bolete (JR), Dusky Puffball (JR), Shaggy Inkcap (JR), Yellow Stagshorn (JR)

Photographs by Duncan Ford (DF), Sybille Spägel (SS), Jim Rae (JR)

4. Volunteer Activities in September

Bert Kirkpatrick helped a lot during the month, completing approximately **32 hours** of work in total.

Sat. 14th He strimmed and raked the Cemetery entrance.

Mon. 16th He strimmed and raked the path beside the Dumfries road.

Wed. 18th He worked with Jim on the boardwalk path and cleared part of a ditch.

Sat. 21st Helped Jim level the area where the apple trees were planted.

Sun. 22nd He cleared the bank and cut back the tree next to the Red Squirrel Hide to let in more light.

Mon. 23rd He strimmed part of the feeder stream bank.

Tue. 24th He strimmed some more of the feeder stream bank.

Thanks Bert.

Tue. 3rd Steven Dalglish and Jim filled either side of the outfall bridge with gabion stones and 40mm gravel.



Thu. 5th Jim topped the area at the outfall bridge with 10mm sub-base.



Sun. 8th Jim received a call about an injured Red Squirrel kitten at the Reserve. It had fallen from a tree and broken its back. It died shortly afterwards.

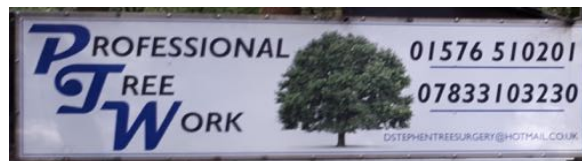


Tue. 10th Steven Dalglish and Jim prepared the timber edge for the first section of path beyond the outfall bridge.

Sat. 14th Jim created the down ramp from the outfall bridge in readiness for bringing in the stump grinder.



Tue. 17th Richard (Chalky) MacCaulay, working for **Dougie Stephen Tree Surgery**, arrived at 7.30am to remove the stumps blocking the path along the sluice dyke. Working steadily and efficiently, **Chalky** completed the stump removal and was ready to leave by 8.30am.



Once the stump was removed **Jim** and **Steven** were able to proceed with removing another section of boardwalk and prepare for laying another section of the new path.



Tue 17th In the afternoon, **Jim** planted two Apple Trees and attached them to stakes. (See the article about the Apple Trees later in the bulletin.)

Tue. 24th Jim and Stephen worked on the new path once again.

5. September Events at the Reserve

Wed. 11th Three students from **Carlisle University**, **Xanthe Walker**, **Rachel Owen** and **Yasmin Dooley**, came down to the Reserve to set out some trail cameras with a view to filming some of the small mammals in the Reserve.

Mon. 16th **Xanthe Walker** and her friends collected their trail cameras.

Wed. 18th **Jim** gave the members of **Corrie SWI** a talk about Eskrigg Reserve.

Fri. 20th **Jim** gave the members of the **Carlisle U3A Bird and Nature Group** a guided tour of the Reserve and pointed out the wide range of fungi to be seen within the Reserve and along some of the Woodland Walks.



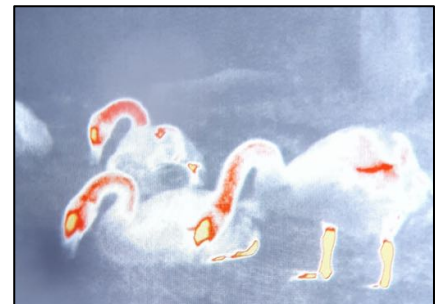
Sun. 22nd **Gary Shanks**, very kindly, ran a **Quiz and Live Music Session** at the Mid-Annandale Comrades Club in Lockerbie to raise funds for Eskrigg Reserve. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Gary for helping to raise over £200. Thanks also to the Club and to Adele Scott (Cafe 91) for an excellent buffet.

Wed. 25th **Kate Lidwell**, from **Lockerbie Academy**, brought a group of foreign students down to the Reserve so that they could learn about the Reserve and the local wildlife.

Thu. 26th **Thermal Imaging Walkabout**
Jim, as a member of the **Annandale Red Squirrel Group**, organised a practical workshop at the Reserve and Woodland Walks in the use of thermal imaging cameras to survey an area for Red and Grey Squirrels. During the exercise the group identified eight healthy Red Squirrels and no Grey Squirrels in the woods next to the Reserve.



The picture on the left was taken with a normal camera, the one on the right through a thermal imaging camera.



Sun. 29th Fungal Foray with Duncan Ford

Once again, **Duncan** conducted a very interesting and informative guided tour of the fungi around the Woodland Walks at Eskrigg. Sixteen people attended. Such was the interest shown that the event went on long past the advertised finishing time and a few people had to leave before the end. A list of the fungi seen during the afternoon is on the next page.

Photographs by Jim Rae

Sunday 29th September - Fungal Foray - with Duncan Ford

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Amethyst Deceiver	<i>Laccaria amethystina</i>	Grey Veiled Amanita	<i>Amanita porphyria</i>
Bay Bolete	<i>Imleria badia</i>	Grisette	<i>Amanita vaginata</i>
Beech Milkcap	<i>Lactarius blennius</i>	Horsehair Parachute	<i>Gymnopus androsaceus</i>
Birch Polypore	<i>Piptoporus betulinus</i>	Nutty Brittlegill	<i>Russula integra</i>
Bitter Bolete	<i>Tylopilus felleus</i>	Ochre Brittlegill	<i>Russula ochracea</i>
Blackening Brittlegill	<i>Russula nigricans</i>	Pelargonium Webcap	<i>Cortinarius flexipes</i>
Blistered Woodwax	<i>Hygrophorus pustulatus</i>	Penny Bun	<i>Boletus edulis</i>
Blusher	<i>Amanita rubescens</i>	Plums and Custard	<i>Tricholomopsis rutilans</i>
Brown Rollrim	<i>Paxillus involutus</i>	Primrose Brittlegill	<i>Russula sardonia</i>
Burnt Knight	<i>Tricholoma ustale</i>	Purple Stocking Webcap	<i>Cortinarius integerrimus</i>
Candlesnuff Fungus	<i>Xylaria hypoxylon</i>	Russet Toughshank	<i>Collybia dryophila</i>
Chanterelle	<i>Cantharellus cibarius</i>	Saffron Webcap	<i>Cortinarius croceus</i>
Clouded Funnel	<i>Clitocybe nebularis</i>	Saffron Milkcap	<i>Lactarius deliciosus</i>
Club Foot	<i>Ampulloclitocybe clavipes</i>	Sickener	<i>Russula emetica</i>
Common Earthball	<i>Scleroderma citrinum</i>	Spotted Toughshank	<i>Collybia maculata</i>
Common Puffball	<i>Lycoperdon perlatum</i>	Stinkhorn	<i>Phallus impudicus</i>
Crested Coral	<i>Clavulina coralloides</i>	Tawny Grisette	<i>Amanita fulva</i>
Deadly Webcap	<i>Cortinarius rubellus</i>	Velvet Bolete	<i>Suillus variegatus</i>
Fleck-gill Knight	<i>Tricholoma sciodes</i>	Wood Hedgehog	<i>Hydnum repandum</i>
Fleecy Milkcap	<i>Lactarius piperatus</i>	Wood Mushroom	<i>Agaricus silvicola</i>
Fly Agaric	<i>Amanita muscaria</i>	Yellow Stagshorn	<i>Calocera viscosa</i>

The species highlighted in **red** are new species for Eskrigg Reserve and Woodland Walks.

Also seen on the same day was the orange disc fungus ***Octospora humosa***.



6. New Apple Trees

There used to be an solitary apple tree growing in the north-west corner of the Reserve which, I'm fairly certain, grew from an apple core that was discarded by a curler in the 1920's. The tree never produced any fruit until 1997. The fruit were delicious eating apples. However, the tree stopped producing fruit in 2003. Apple trees need to be cross pollinated and for many years this lone tree would produce beautiful blossoms in spring but no fruit in the autumn, it never got cross-pollinated.

In 1997, Jim Manson, who lived in Vallance Drive, started keeping bees, and these bees brought pollen from the apple trees growing in gardens in Vallance Drive and West Acres, down to the tree in the Reserve. In 2003, Jim Manson stopped keeping bees and the 'Lone Apple' stopped producing fruit. When I realised what had happened a few years later, I planted a Crab Apple tree beside the 'Lone Apple', hoping to facilitate cross-pollination. I also erected an information board about pollination using the apple flower as the central theme. Unfortunately, the 'Lone Apple' died a couple of years later.

When my wife Barbara died at the end of May this year, I decided to plant two new 'eating' apple trees in her memory and hopefully they will be cross-pollinated and apples will again be seen growing in the Reserve. I have named the trees Jim and Barbara.



Photographs by Jim Rae

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