

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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



Scottish Charity No:
SC 005538

Eskrigg Reserve

October 2019 News Bulletin

1. Eskrigg Pond on the 17th of October.



2. Confirmed wildlife sightings at the Reserve during October.

a. Birds

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Cormorant, Dunnock, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Lesser Redpoll, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Mallard, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Pied Wagtail, Pink-footed Goose, Raven, Redwing, Robin, Rook, Siskin, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Stock Dove, Treecreeper, Wood Pigeon, Wren.

Unfortunately, by the end of the month, we were down from five cygnets to only one. One was killed by a dog, one died from some internal cause, but the other two just disappeared. It is possible they were taken by a fox or perhaps they were just mature enough to fly off on their own.



b. Mammals

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

Photographs by Jim Rae (JR) and Billy Jardine (BJ)

3. Eskrigg Reserve October Photo-gallery



1st Row: Jelly Babies, King Alfred's Cake, Small Stagshorn, Dappled Webcap.
 2nd Row: Eyelash Fungus, Pelargonium Webcap, Jelly Brain, Artist's Bracket.
 3rd Row: Clouded Funnel, Golden Waxcap, Common Puffball, Chanterelle.
 4th Row: Grisette, Fleck-gill Knight, Silverleaf fungus, Grass Oysterling.
 5th Row: Mallard Ducks (BJ), Wood Sorrel (BJ), Robin (BJ).
 6th Row: Shaggy Inkcap, Ugly Milkcap, Stinkhorn.

Photographs by Jim Rae and Billy Jardine (BJ).

4. Volunteer Activities in October

Over the month, **Bert Kirkpatrick** strimmed the sides of the feeder burn and cleaned out the ditch beside the Reserve path, in addition to the work described below - a total of 40 hours.

Tue. 1st **Steven Dalgliesh** helped **Jim** work on the new path.

Fri. 4th **Sybille Spägele** raked up leaves along much of the Reserve Path.

Sat. 5th **Sybille Spägele** tidied up round the Centre while **Jim** raked up leaves from the woodland paths.

Thu. 10th **Norah Muirhead** and **Jim Rae** filled up the potholes on the Eskrigg Farm road.

Tue. 15th **Neil Stewart** helped **Jim** transport and lay gabion stones and gravel on the new path.

Thu. 17th **Bert Kirkpatrick** helped **Jim** prune the Willow Sculpture at **Applegarth Primary School** then, at the Reserve, **Bert** cleared a section of ditch while **Jim** worked on the paths.



Neil Stewart

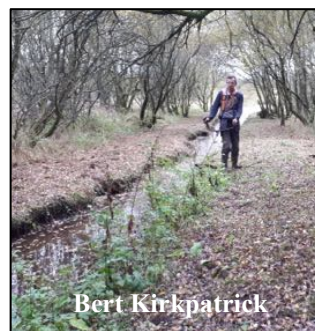


Norah, Steven, Fraser

Tue. 22nd **Norah Muirhead, Steven Dalgliesh, Fraser Dalgliesh** and **Jim** worked on the new path.

Wed. 23rd **Bert Kirkpatrick** finished strimming the burnside while **Jim** raked the area beside the Red Squirrel Hide and parts of the Reserve path.

Thu. 24th **Jim Rae** worked on the new path.



Bert Kirkpatrick



Steven and Norah

Tue. 29th **Steven, Norah and Jim** worked on the new path.

We have reached the stage where we have to clear the rest of the old boardwalk and bring in a digger to level the ground before we can complete the new gravel path and start installing the new hide.



5. October Events at, or relating to, Eskrigg Reserve

Thu. 3rd **Xanthe Walker, Rachel Owen and Yasmin Dooley** set out some trail cameras to study the activity of the small mammals at the Reserve as part of a University project.

So far they have got footage of Red Squirrel, Fox, Hare & Leveret, Roe Deer and Woodmouse.

5. October Events at, or relating to, Eskrigg Reserve (continued).

Fri. 11th As part of the **Scottish Joint Foray 2019**, fifteen fungal experts came to **Eskrigg Reserve and Woodland Walks** to find and identify as many fungi as they could. They split up into smaller groups of two or three to sample different parts of the site and Jim accompanied one of the groups. The fungal experts were staying at Glingerbank for a week and sampling different woodlands in the area.

On Sunday 13th October, Jim went along to Glingerbank to meet the experts once again and learn how the week had gone. The results of their findings will be published in a future bulletin. Here are some of the fungi spotted on the day.



Smoky Spindles
(*Clavaria fumosa*)



A Truffleclub
(*Cordyceps longisegmentis*)



A Truffleclub with its underground truffle.



Hymenoscyphus fructigenus
on beechmast



Phragmidium bulbosum
on underside of bramble leaf



Honey Waxcap
(*Hygrocybe reidii*)

Fri. 18th ATV Rider Course at Shawhead

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust recently acquired a new quad bike to replace the one used for the past 30 years. The Reserve Manager, Jim Rae, took advantage of a free training course to familiarise himself with the new ATV and learn about its maintenance and use.

Mon. 21st Visit by Murray Primary P7.

The teachers and pupils arrived by bus at Isle Court at 10.45am. Jim met them and walked with them down to the Reserve. He then welcomed the group and gave them a brief history of the Reserve. After a snack the group split into two. One half studied the organisms to be found in the leaf litter of the Scots Pine wood while the other half did an exercise on tree and bird identification. After lunch, the groups swapped activities.



7. Other events

Tue. 8th Jim gave a talk about **Eskrigg Reserve** to members of the SWI in **Thornhill**.

Photographs by Jim Rae

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