

# Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

([www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk](http://www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk))



Scottish Charity No:  
SC 005538

## Eskrigg Reserve

### November 2021 News Bulletin

1.



#### 2. Confirmed wildlife sightings at the Reserve during November.

##### a. Birds

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Dunnock, Fieldfare, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Jay, Kestrel, Lesser Redpoll, Long-tailed Tit, Mallard, Mute Swan, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Raven, Redwing, Robin, Rook, Siskin, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Stock Dove, Tawny Owl, Treecreeper, Woodcock, Woodpigeon, Wren.



##### b. Mammals

Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Roe Deer.  
Grey Squirrel at the car park on the 6th.



Photographs by Jim Rae (JR) and Tony Scruton (TS)



### 3. Eskrigg Reserve - November 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – The Poppy Walk



Photographs by Jim Rae – thanks to all involved.



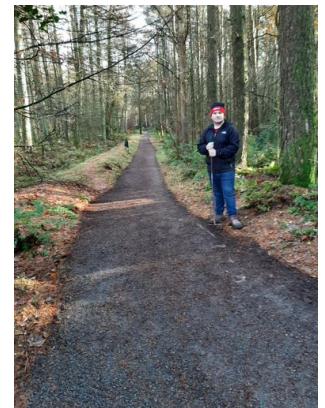
#### 4. Maintenance and construction work at the Reserve and Woodland Walks in November.

Work carried out this month included:

5<sup>th</sup> **Jim Rae, Graeme Urquhart and Sybille Spägle** filled in the potholes on Eskrigg Farm Road.



15<sup>th</sup> **Graeme and Thomas (Tom) Hargreaves** helped **Jim** to tidy up some of the Woodland Walks and Forest Road.



17<sup>th</sup> **Zack Nicholson** helped **Jim** rake up leaves along some of the central woodland paths.



18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> **Stuart Black** kindly lent **Jim** a Stihl two-stroke backpack leaf blower to try out around the Woodland Walks. This model was very efficient but **Jim** found the blower rather heavy when used for any length of time.



22<sup>nd</sup> **Graeme and Tom** helped **Jim** tidy up part of the Forest Road and try out a battery powered leaf blower (courtesy of RC Dalgliesh Ltd) but found the batteries would only power the blower for a relatively short distance.

23<sup>rd</sup> **Jim** tried out a two-stroke Husqvarna backpack blower from RC Dalgliesh Ltd and found it very efficient and lighter to carry than **Stuart's** Stihl blower. After consulting with the members of the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust Management Committee, **Jim** went ahead and purchased the blower for the Trust. It will save volunteers a lot of time and effort in the future.

26<sup>th</sup> **Storm Arwen** arrived and brought down many trees in the area. The Trust had a Christmas Stall at Tesco in Lockerbie on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> so, on the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup>, **Jim** was only able to make a quick assessment of the damage at the Reserve and erect a sign at the end of the road to the Car Park indicating that the Reserve was closed. A notice was also put up on the Eskrigg Reserve Facebook page and on the LWT website.

28<sup>th</sup> In the morning, **Jim** started to prune the trees brought down by storm Arwen in order to clear a path through the Reserve. In the afternoon, he was joined by **Stuart Black** who used his chainsaw to fell and cut up some of the trees so that they could be cleared.



Photographs by Jim Rae



Stuart manipulated the trees so as to avoid damaging the ramp into the Red Squirrel Hide.



**Before**



**During**



**3 days later**

One of the trees blown over landed on the roof of the Centre but appears to have caused little damage. Stuart managed to cut it down without causing any further damage. Well done.



## 5. Some November wildlife sightings



Row 1 (JR): **Oyster Mushroom (*Pleurotus ostreatus*)**, Dog Sick Slime Mould, Felt Saddle

Row 2: Fly Agaric (JR), Angle Shades (RK), Wood Hedgehog (JR)

Photographs by Jim Rae (JR) and Ronald Kirk (RK)

### Christmas Stalls

Many thanks to all who supported Lockerbie Wildlife Trust at the Switching on of the Christmas Lights and at Tesco.

The Trust took in £2,164 from the sale of the 2022 Calendars, Christmas Cards, Nature Notelets and 'Guess the number of Hazel Kernels in the Squirrel Feeder'.

The winner of the bottle of whisky was Lynda Robertson.

**Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)**

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