

# Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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



Scottish Charity No:  
SC 005538

## Eskrigg Reserve

# February 2022 News Bulletin

### 1. Eskrigg pond on the afternoon of 27 February.



SS

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

#### a. Birds

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Dunnock, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Jay, Kestrel, Long-tailed Tit, Mallard, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Pintail, Raven, Robin, Siskin, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Stock Dove, Treecreeper, Woodpigeon, Wren.



AKM

#### b. Mammals

Bank Vole, Hare, Mole, Red Squirrel, Roe Deer, Shrew.



IR

Photographs by Sybille Spägle (SS), Andrew K Murray (AKM), Ian Roberts (IR)

3. February 2022 Photo-gallery.



**Row 1: Red Squirrel (AKM), Mute Swan (JR), Red Squirrel (SS)**

**Row 2: Blue Tit (AKM), Red Squirrel (KCN), Great Tit (KCN)**

**Row 3: Long-tailed Tit (KCN), Mute Swan (IR), Siskin (KCN)**

**Row 4: Red Squirrel (AKM), Blue Tit (KCN), Red Squirrel (CT)**

**Photographs by Andrew K. Murray (AKM), Keith Chippy Nicoll (KCN), Jim Rae (JR), Ian Roberts (IR), Tony Scruton (TS), Sybille Spägle, Caroline Thom (CT)**

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

##### Work carried out this month included:

- 4<sup>th</sup> **Jim Rae** collected some home-grown trees. Rowan, Horse Chestnut and Oak, that had been donated by **Norman Brown** from Brydekirk.
- 7<sup>th</sup> In the morning, **Graeme Urquhart** and **Tom Hargreaves** helped **Jim** to clear conifer debris from the Reserve path. In the afternoon, they cut back a tree beside the Kingfisher Hide that had grown over and into the burn behind the hide.
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Jim** planted out the Flag Iris corms that he had been gifted for the Reserve.
- 11<sup>th</sup> **Jim** raked up and cleared debris from several paths.
- 25<sup>th</sup> **Jim** spent the day filling in potholes on the Eskrigg Farm road.
- 26<sup>th</sup> **Jim** and **Sybille Spägele** filled in the remaining potholes on the farm road and some on the forest road (Photo: Sybille driving quad bike and trailer).



#### 5. Annual Nut Race 2022



Participants that stayed for a photograph at the end.



One family group helping the nuts along.

There was a smaller than normal turnout for this year's Nut Race on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>, as expected, because people are still wary of meeting up with others despite the relaxation of the Covid-19 restrictions.

However, the weather was dry and sunny and those that took part enjoyed the event. The water level dropped a bit during the afternoon but, with the help of the onlookers armed with canes, the nuts all made it down the burn to the finishing line. Everyone who took part received a chocolate caramel egg courtesy of **Liz McDonnell**, who also donated the cash prizes.

The prize winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize of £25 was won by Natalie Henriquez (nut - light blue 28)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize of £15 was won by James Hassall (nut – black 89)

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize of £5 was won by Martin Armstrong (nut – red 48)

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust would like to say a big thank you to all who sponsored a nut, gave a donation or came along in person to support the event. The magnificent sum of £582 was raised and will be used to support the work of the Trust at Eskrigg Reserve.

Photographs by Jim Rae

**Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)**

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