

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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

Eskrigg Reserve

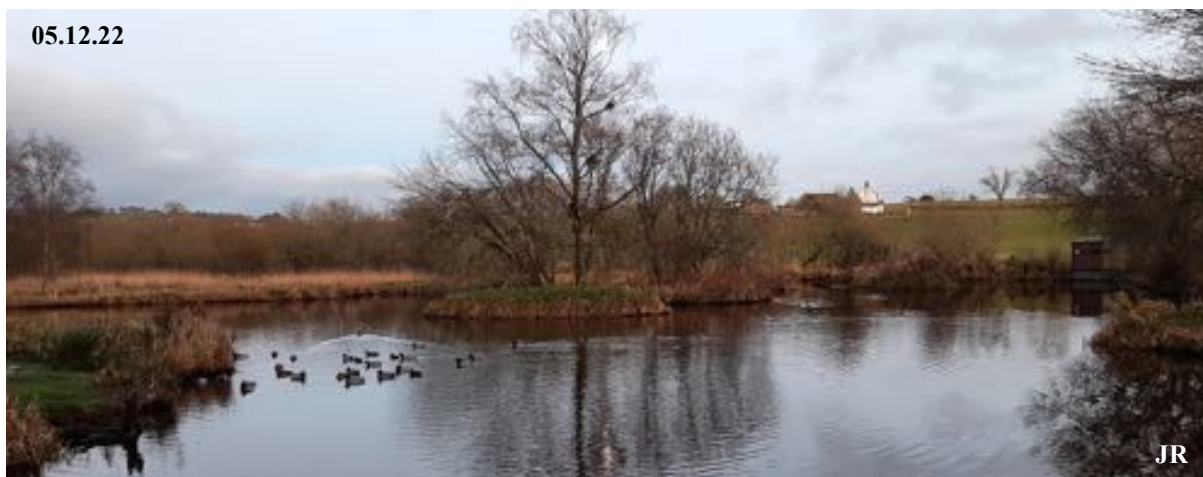
December 2022 News Bulletin



Scottish Charity No:
SC 005538

1. Eskrigg Reserve Pond

05.12.22



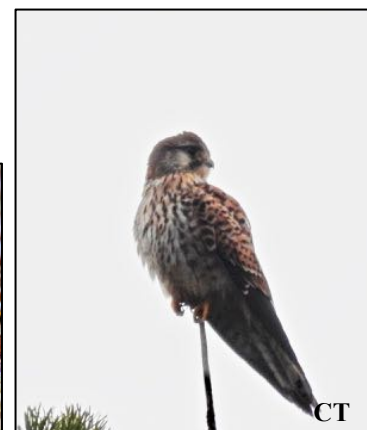
15.12.22



2. Confirmed wildlife sightings at the Reserve during December.

a. Birds:

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Dunnock, Fieldfare, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Jay, Kestrel, Long-tailed Tit, Mallard, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Raven, Red Kite, Redwing, Robin, Siskin, Snipe, Sparrowhawk, Stock Dove, Tawny Owl, Treecreeper, Woodpigeon, Wren.



b. Mammals:

Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Stoat, Roe Deer.

Photographs by Alistair Moulstone (AM), Jim Rae (JR), Caroline Thom (CT)

3. December 2022 Photo-gallery



Sunrise 06.12.22



Sunset 12.12.22



Hazel Catkins



Birch Catkins



Alder Catkins



Frosted Holly Leaf



Elfin Saddle



Frosted Spider's Web



**Eskrigg Centre
15.12.22**

Photographs by Jim Rae

4. Construction and Maintenance Work during December.



Sat. 3 Between 10.00am and 11.45am, **Joe Borthwick** helped **Jim Rae** strim and rake the section of the Northern Loop parallel to the feeder burn. The two of them then went to the Fire Station, in Lockerbie, to do refresher training on the use of a defibrillator between 12 noon and 1.00pm.

Mon. 5 **Tom Hargreaves** helped **Jim** to strim and rake the path to the Kingfisher Hide. They then strimmed and raked the perimeter of the Car Park and half-way down the path to

the Reserve.

Tue. 6 **Jim** completed the strimming and raking of the path down to the Reserve.

The weather during the remainder of the month was either too wet or too cold to do any further maintenance work.



5. Lockerbie Wildlife Trust events in December.

There were no official events in December.

However, on Sunday the 11th of December, when the pond had been frozen over for several days, three local youths/young adults decided that the conditions were safe enough to do some skating.

Jim Rae (Reserve Manager), came across them at around midday and asked them to stop playing and come off the ice. Jim pointed out that, apart from the risk of falling through the ice with potentially serious consequences, they were in a nature reserve and they were disturbing the wildlife and stopping the wildlife from accessing the feeders.



THE LADS DID NOT CARE and REFUSED TO COME OFF THE ICE.

Jim put on record, by notifying another Lockerbie Wildlife Trust Committee Member, that he had asked them to come off the ice and that neither he nor the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust could be held responsible if an accident happened.

When Jim came back at 4.00pm to lock up the hides he found that the lads had invited about twenty other young folk down to join them for the afternoon. Luckily there were no tragedies. They did all agree to come off the ice when it became dark, so Jim remained on site until they had all left.

This turned out to be the same day that youngsters down south died after falling through the ice. Perhaps the Lockerbie youths heard about the tragedy that evening and thought again about their actions – they did not come back.

Photographs by Jim Rae

Happy New Year Everyone

Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)
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