

# Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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

## Eskrigg Reserve

### January 2023 News Bulletin



Scottish Charity No:  
SC 005538

1.



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

##### a. Birds:

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

##### b. Mammals:

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



Photographs by Jim Rae (JR) and Brian Taylor (BT)



### 3. January 2023 Photo-gallery

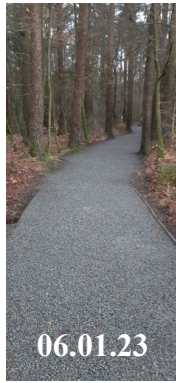


**Row 1: Sulphur Tuft (JR), Red Squirrel (BT), Common Puffball (JR)**  
**Row 2: Treecreeper (BT), Sammy and Sally (JR), Female Blackbird (BT)**  
**Row 3: Red Squirrel (BT), Frosted Fruits (MM), Cock Pheasant (BT)**  
**Row 4 (AM): Bank Voles territorial behaviour**  
**Row 5 (BT): Coal Tit, Red Squirrel**

Photographs by Mattie Meechan (MM), Alistair Moulstone (AM), Jim Rae (JR), Brian Taylor (BT)



#### 4. Construction and Maintenance Work during January.



**Fri. 6** **Jim Rae** raked up the leaves from the reserve paths.

**Tue. 10** **Scott McLean** made adjustments to the door to the Red Squirrel Hide to help it close.

**Mon. 16** **Tom Hargreaves** helped **Jim** fill up some of the potholes on the Eskrigg Farm road.

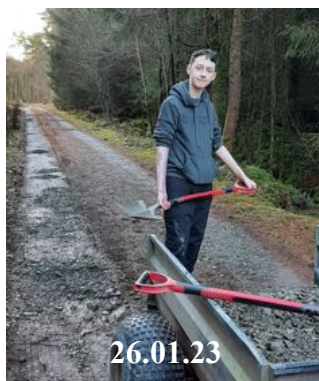
**Tue. 17** **Noah Nightingale** helped **Jim** fill up the bird feeders.



**Wed. 18** Dead Red Squirrel found in wood next to Eskrigg Reserve and left in secure place for **Jim**.

**Thu. 19** **Jim** confirmed that the squirrel had died from the squirrel pox and buried the body. **Jim** then took down all the squirrel and bird feeders in order to sterilize them. The squirrel feeders will be kept down for 4 weeks and then only put back up if there are no more cases of squirrel pox in the meantime. The bird feeders were put back up the next day.

**Fri. 20** **Gordon Reid** helped **Jim** fill up the remaining potholes on the farm road.



**Thu. 26** **Noah** helped **Jim** fill up some of the potholes on the forest road.

**Sat. 28** **Joe Borthwick** and **Jim** carried out the Saturday Morning Dog Poo Patrol, filled the remaining potholes on the forest road with gravel, then picked up the litter around the woodland walks.

**Average Daily People Count for January = 45**

**Photographs by Jim Rae**

**Jim spotted a hare in the woods next to the Reserve  
on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January (Robert Burns birthday)  
and was reminded of the following poem.**



Picture obtained online

## **The Wounded Hare**

### **By Robert Burns**

INHUMAN man! Curse on thy barb'rous art,  
And blasted be thy murder-aiming eye;  
May never pity soothe thee with a sigh,  
Nor ever pleasure glad thy cruel heart!

Go live, poor wand'rer of the wood and field!  
The bitter little that of life remains:  
No more the thickening brakes and verdant plains  
To thee a home, or food, or pastime yield.

Seek, mangled wretch, some place of wonted rest,  
No more of rest, but now thy dying bed!  
The sheltering rushes whistling o'er thy head,  
The cold earth with thy bloody bosom prest.

Perhaps a mother's anguish adds its woe;  
The playful pair crowd fondly by thy side;  
Ah! Helpless nurslings, who will now provide  
That life a mother only can bestow!

Oft as by winding Nith I, musing, wait  
The sober eve, or hail the cheerful dawn,  
I'll miss thee sporting o'er the dewy lawn,  
And curse the ruffian's aim, and mourn thy hapless fate.

**Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)**  
**Address: Carradale, 12 Douglas Terrace, Lockerbie, Dumfries and Galloway, DG11 2DZ.**  
**Home Tel.: 01576 203 314 / Mobile No.: 07739 987 009**  
**Email: jim.rae2012@gmail.com**