

Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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



Scottish Charity No:
SC 005538

Eskrigg Reserve

June 2025 News Bulletin

1. Greylag families on Eskrigg Pond, on the 9th of June. The heron was there most days.



2. Reported wildlife sightings at the Reserve during June

a. Birds:

Blackbird, Blackcap, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Coal Tit, Collared Dove, Cuckoo, Curlew, Dunnock, Garden Warbler, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Greylag Goose, Grey Heron, House Martin, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Little Grebe, Magpie, Mallard, Mandarin, Mistle Thrush, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Red Kite, Robin, Rook, Sand Martin, Siskin, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Spotted Flycatcher, Starling, Stock Dove, Swallow, Swift, Tree Creeper, Tree Pipit, Tree Sparrow, Whitethroat, Willow Warbler, Woodpigeon, Wren.

b. Mammals:

Bank Vole, Hare, Mole, Rabbit, Roe Deer, Weasel.
Red and Grey Squirrels have been sighted in the woods south of the Reserve.

c. Amphibians & Reptiles:

Frog, Lizard, Toad.

d. Insects:

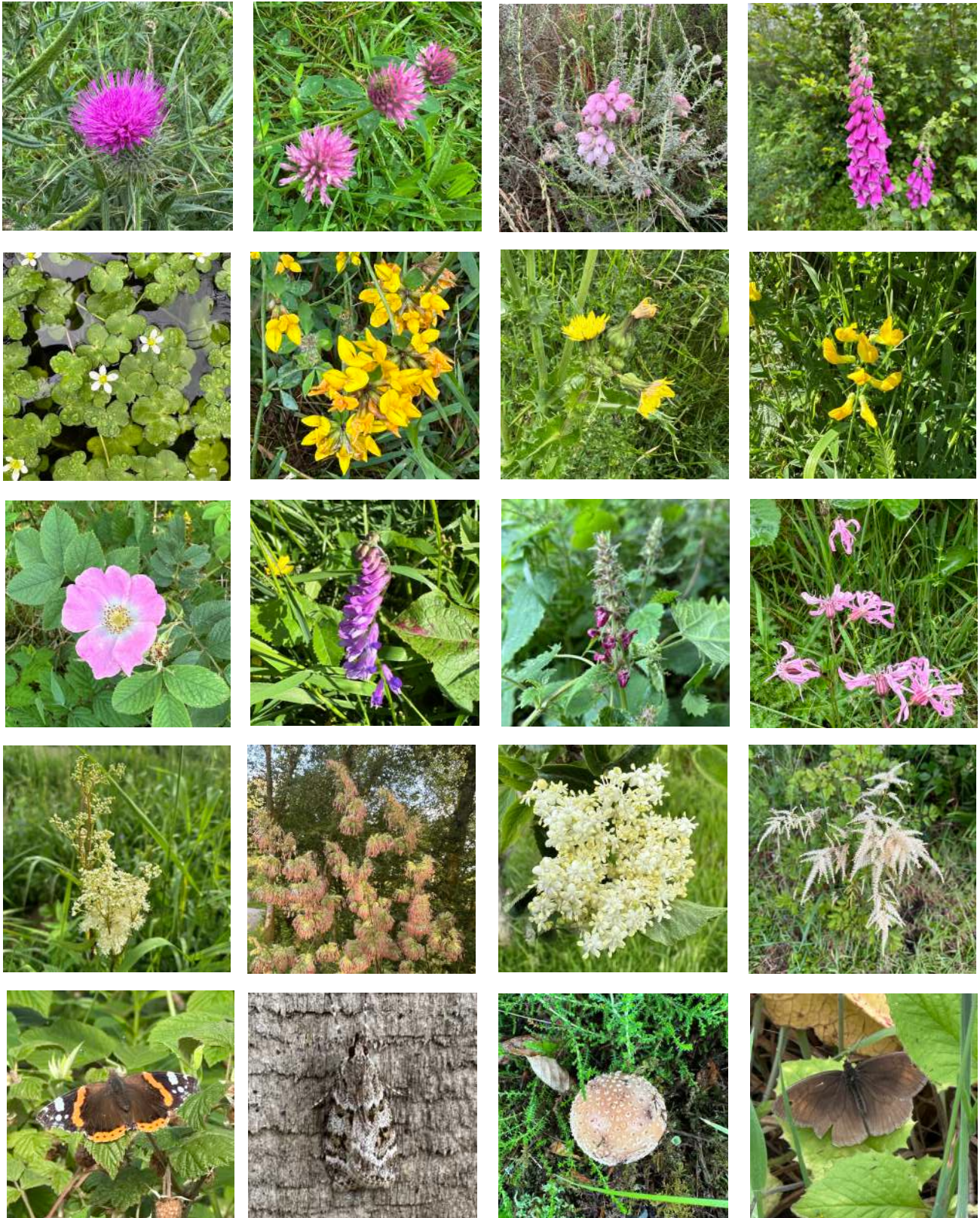
Butterflies: Green-veined White, Meadow Brown, Peacock, Red Admiral, Small White, Small Tortoiseshell.
Moths: Chimney Sweeper.
Dragonflies: Common Hawker.
Damselflies: Common Blue.



Young frog

Photographs by Jim Rae

3. June 2025 Flower Photo-gallery + others



Row 1: Spear Thistle, Red Clover, Cross-leaved Heath, Foxglove

Row 2: Pond Water Crowfoot, Large Trefoil, Prickly Sowthistle, Meadow Vetchling

Row 3: Dog Rose, Tufted Vetch, Hedge Woundwort, Ragged Robin

Row 4: Meadowsweet, Cock's-foot, Elder, Buck's Beard

Row 5: Red Admiral, *Eudonia truncicolella*, Grey Spotted Amanita, Meadow Brown

Photographs by Jim Rae

4. Maintenance Work



Tue. 03 **Joe Borthwick** and **Jim Rae** cleared the ditch/small stream next to the Forest Classroom.

Wed. 04 **Jim** met with **Thomas Raine**, a potential volunteer.

Thu. 05 **Jim** cut up and cleared a fallen tree from the Sluice dyke. He was later joined by **Joe Borthwick** and the two then tidied the path to the Kingfisher Hide. In the late afternoon, **Jim** met with **Malcolm Courault**, another potential volunteer.



Wed. 11 to Fri. 13 Many thanks to **Gordon Reid** for looking after the Reserve while **Jim** was away on holiday.

Sun. 15 Volunteer Maintenance Sunday



During the morning, **Lynsey Scott**, **Lawrence Scott**, **Sybill Spägle** and **Gordon Reid** helped **Jim** to fill in the potholes on the Eskrigg Farm road.

In the afternoon, **Derek Campbell**, **Sybill Spägle**, **Gordon Reid** and **Joanne McInnes** helped **Jim** to clear

two wind-blown oak trees from the Pipeline Walk.



Sat. 21 **Felicity Jackson** helped **Jim** to strim and rake the sides of the car park and part of the path down to the Reserve.



Fri. 27 **Derek Campbell** and **Jim Rae** began clearing the fallen trees from the narrow path between the forest road and the Reserve. It will take some time to deal with the rest of the hanging and fallen trees, upturned root systems and weed growth.

Photographs by Sybill Spägle (SS) and Jim Rae

5. June Events



Fri. 06 The **Cornet's Lass Rideout** passed along the forest road next to the Reserve at 9.00pm.

Tue. 10 & Thu. 12 Teachers and pupils from **Lockerbie Academy** visited the Reserve to carry out some Biology Fieldwork.

Fri. 20 In the evening, the Scouts, Explorers, Cubs, Leaders and Parents, associated with the 9th Dumfriesshire - Lockerbie Scout Group, braved the heat, flies and brambles to volunteer at the Eskrigg Reserve and Woodland Walks.

Working with various tools, they made room for the heather and bilberries to flourish by removing brambles, self-seeded trees and other plants along a section of the Southern Loop.



All while they were learning to identify what they were protecting, what they were removing and why. They have worked on this section of path and ditching over a number of years and during that time they have noticed the heather and bilberries flourish and the water flow better through the ditches. By spending time in the same section and by learning to care for it, young people build connections to a place, come to show respect and care for it and see the positive changes over their time with the Scouts. Well done everyone and thank you for your help. Thank you to their support crew who brought refreshments for all the workers after they finished.

Wcd. 25 **Senga Greenwood**, of the **D&G Climate Hub**, hosted a group of nature enthusiasts and community land groups at the Reserve. The site 'walk and talk' was led by **Jim Rae**. Participants learned about how he encouraged the diverse flora and fauna and how he manages and conserves the site.

Rounding off the day there were some robust conversations and an excellent chance to network over a picnic lunch catered for by the Lean Bean Cafe, Thornhill.



Photographs by Jim Rae

Total people count for June = 1052, Average number per day = 35.
Busiest day: Tuesday 24th = 129

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