

# Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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



Scottish Charity No:  
SC 005538

## Eskrigg Reserve November 2025 News Bulletin

### 1. Sunrise on the 26th November.



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

#### a. Birds:

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Coal Tit, Crossbill, Dunnock, 'Farm Duck', Fieldfare, Gadwall, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Greylag, Grey Wagtail, Hooded Crow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kingfisher, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Mallard, Mistle Thrush, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Nuthatch, Pheasant, Pinkfoot, Redwing, Reed Bunting, Robin, Rook, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Stock Dove, Stonechat, Treecreeper, Tree Sparrow, Woodpigeon, Wren

#### b. Mammals: Grey Squirrel, Mole, Red Squirrel



Kingfisher (SD)

Photographs by Stephen Douglas (SD) & Jim Rae (JR)

### 3. Selection of November Wildlife photographs



**Row 1 (PC):** Kingfisher, Red Squirrel, Nuthatch

**Row 2 (JR):** Wild Angelica, Spear Thistle, Cow Parsnip

**Row 3 (JR):** Common Dog-violet, Birch Polypore, Common Wood Sorrel

**Row 4 (JR):** Three different Red Squirrels at the feeder

**Row 5:** Clouded Border, Assorted Fungi & Lichens, Mute Swan

**Photographs by Pamela Copeland (PM) & Jim Rae (JR)**

## 4 Maintenance Work



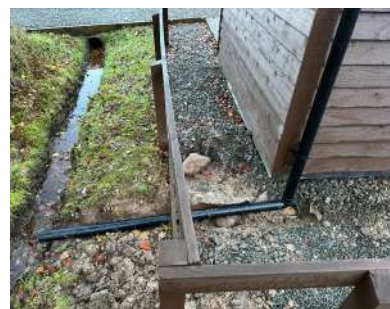
**Tue. 04** The small stream next to the Forest Classroom was flowing freely thanks to work done by **Derek Campbell, Sam Pattinson** and **Jim Rae** on the 31st of October.

**Fri. 07** **Derek Campbell** and **Sam Pattinson** helped **Jim Rae** remove the woodchips and accumulated mud from sections of the forest road to facilitate drainage of the rainwater.



**Sat. 08** **Jim** cut down some broken branches from the Oak Tree at Pearl's Place then he and **Victoria Kenyon** managed to clear the pipe below the small bridge on the path to Pearl's Place to drain away the flood water. They also cleared mud from the path so that the path could dry out.

**Sat. 08 continued:** **Colin Taylor** kindly fitted some pipes to re-route the water from the roof of the toilet into a nearby ditch instead of the soakaway.



**Fri. 14** **Derek Campbell, Gordon Reid** and **Jim Rae** filled up the potholes on the Eskrigg Farm Road.



**Sat. 22.** While **Jim Rae** cut the hedge opposite the cemetery, **Robin Mitchell** and **Alex Cotton** strimmed the path and raked up the grass and hedge trimmings.



## 5. November Events

**Wed. 05** Unfortunately, the planned visit by **Lockerbie Primary 6** had to be cancelled because of the bad weather. The flooding of the path down from the car park also prevented access for many other visitors.



**Sat. 07** The **Poppy Cascade** was hung on the side of the Eskrigg Centre again this year to remind visitors of the service and sacrifice of all those that defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.



Photographs by Jim Rae

## Sun. 09 Lockerbie Wildlife Trust visit to the WWT Wetland Centre at Caerlaverock



Seven members of the Trust visited the site to observe the wildfowl. Most of the Barnacle Geese were far out on the shore, a few small flocks of the geese were a bit closer and observable with binoculars. Several other species were on the pond in front of the Peter Scott Observatory, where they were waiting to be fed. These included Hooper Swans, Wigeon, Mallard and Tufted Duck.

**Sat. 15** Many thanks to **Kathryn and David Hughes, Gordon Reid, Nicola Hall and Jim Rae** for setting up and running the **Lockerbie Wildlife Trust** stall at the **Switch-on** of the **Lockerbie Christmas Lights**. The proceeds will all be used to support the work of the Trust at Eskrigg Reserve.



**Fri. 28 & Sat. 29** **Lockerbie Wildlife Trust** had a **Christmas Stall** at **TESCO**, in **Lockerbie**, between 10.00am and 4pm. Many thanks to all who purchased goods and supported the work of the Trust.

### 6. Winter Visiting Thrushes - Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*) & Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*)

The Redwings are the smallest members of the Thrush Family (Turdidae) and are widespread in Britain and Ireland between mid-September and mid-April. They can be recognised by the long, white stripe (supercilium) above the eyes and the orange-red flanks beneath the wings.

The Fieldfare is also a winter migrant. It is a much larger bird than the Redwing. It lacks the eye stripe and has a yellow-orange chest. It has grey hood which extends down to a rich russet back, then a pure grey rump and a black tail.

The newly arrived migrants feed on fruit such as windfall apples and a wide variety of berries. At the Reserve they feed mainly on Hawthorn, Rowan and Holly berries. As the amount of fruit declines, they move into more open areas such as the fields near the Reserve, where they can be seen together, feeding on earthworms or other invertebrates, until the worms have burrowed out of reach of their short beaks. Being so small, the Redwings can suffer if there is prolonged snowfall because they struggle to find enough food to keep warm and stay alive.

There are very small population of Redwings and Fieldfares breeding in Scotland. They mainly breed in Scandinavia and Northern Europe.



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

**Total people count for November = 1,116 - Average number per day = 37**

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