Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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

Eskrigg Reserve
June 2026 News Bulletin

Scottish Charity No: SC 005538

1. Eskrigg pond on the 20th of June

2. Reported wildlife sightings at the Reserve during June

a. Birds:
Blackbird, Blackcap, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Coal Tit, Crossbill, Dunnock, 'Farm Duck', Garden Warbler, Goldfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, Greylag Goose, Grey Wagtail, House Martin, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Little Grebe, Magpie, Mallard, Mistle Thrush, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Osprey (circling the wood), Oystercatcher, Pheasant, Pied Wagtail, Red Kite, Redpoll, Reed Bunting, Robin, Sedge Warbler, Siskin, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Spotted Flycatcher, Stockdove, Stonechat, Swallow, Treecreeper, Tree Sparrow, Willow Warbler, Woodcock, Woodpigeon, Wren, Yellow Hammer

b. Mammals: Bank Vole, Grey Squirrel, Hare, Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Roe Deer

c. Amphibians: Frog, Toad

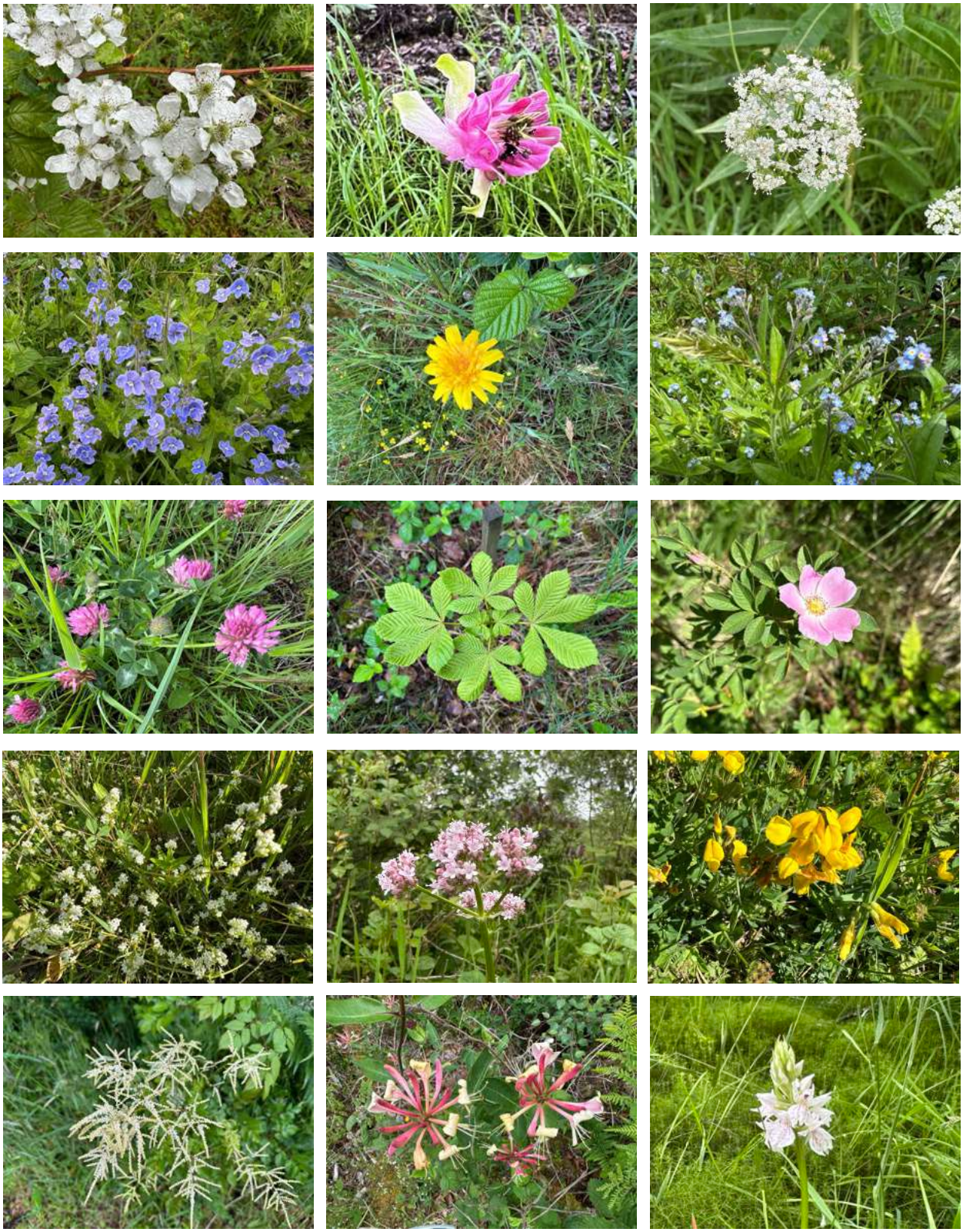
d. Butterflies: Painted Lady, Ringlet & Peacock caterpillar

e. Dragonflies: Common Hawker
Damselflies: Common Blue

Young Red Squirrel gnawing at the antlers to get calcium and another feeding on peanuts.

Photographs by Jim Rae

3. Selection of photographs taken in June



Row 1: Dewberry, Columbine, Pignut
Row 2: Germander Speedwell, Autumn Hawkbit, Field Forget-me-not
Row 3: Red Clover, Horse Chestnut, Sweetbriar Rose
Row 4: Heath Bedstraw, Valerian, Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil
Row 5: Buck's Beard, Honeysuckle, Heath Spotted Orchid

Photographs by Jim Rae

4. Lockerbie Beavers visited the Reserve on the evening of Tuesday 16th June to do some pond dipping. They did well and found many different species, most of which were at an early stage of development: **Lockerbie Brownies** visited the Reserve on the 30th of June to study the Woodland Minibeasts and also do some pond dipping. The two groups of youngsters found the following pond animals.

Water Flea (*Daphnia*)

Bloodworm (Midge Larva)

Ramshorn Snail

Freshwater Shrimp

Pond Snail

Pond Skater

Lesser Water Boatman

Greater Water Boatman

Water Scorpion

Diving Beetle Larva

Water Beetle

Scavenger Beetle Larva

Mayfly Nymph

Alderfly Nymph

Damselfly Nymph

Three-spined Stickleback

Leech

Frog or Toad Tadpole

At the end of each session, both groups made a kind donation to the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust.

Photographs by Jim Rae

5. Maintenance work

Thu. 04 Jim Rae strimmed and raked the area at the Cemetery Entrance, cut back the wind-blown Elder and pruned the standing Elder.

Fri. 05 Derek Campbell and **Jim Rae** strimmed and raked the path beside the Dumfries Road, pruned back the trees and cleared the ditch.

In the afternoon and evening, **Jim Rae** strimmed and raked the sides of the path to the Kingfisher Hide.

Mon. 08 **Jim Rae** strimmed the area beside the Red Squirrel Hide and the sides of the path between the Silt Trap and the Shelter.

Wed. 10 Jim Rae strimmed and raked the area around the bench seats, toilet and picnic table, then raked the path between the Forest Road and the culvert down the Southern Loop.

Fri. 12 Derek Campbell, Norah Muirhead, Sam Pattinson and **Jim Rae** filled in the potholes on the Eskrigg Farm Road.

Wed. 17 A Grey Alder tree had come down across the Forest Road during the previous night and **Jim** cut it up and cleared it away.

Sun. 21 Volunteer Maintenance Sunday
In the morning, **Gordon Reid, Richard Arnott** and **Jim Rae** strimmed and raked the Car Park and the start of the path down to the Reserve. In the afternoon, **David Orr** helped **Jim** to clear more of the path.

Photographs by Jim Rae

Mon. 22 - Fri. 25 Jim continued strimming and clearing paths up till the Friday, when the temperature got just a bit too high for that kind of work.

Sat. 27 Jim strimmed and raked a section of the Forest Road and completed a flowering plant survey.

Mon. 29 & Tue. 30 Jim strimmed and raked further sections of the path round the Northern Loop.

6. Fund Raising

Sat. 13 Lockerbie Gala Day

During the Gala Parades, and throughout the afternoon, **Jim Rae** was out with the charity collection boxes, gathering donations from the people of Lockerbie in support of the work of Lockerbie Wildlife Trust at Eskrigg Nature Reserve.

Jim would like to express his grateful thanks to all who contributed and helped to raise a total of £665. THANK YOU.

7. Talented Craft Work

There is a bench seat, along the woodland walk that overlooks the Annan Valley, which is dedicated to Robert and Anne Allan. It was donated by Robert's sister Lesley and her family. This month, Robert and Anne's daughter, Lorraine, visited the site and left two beautiful hand-knitted representations of her parents, which she had knitted, on the back of the bench. Lorraine has clearly inherited her mum's crafting skills.

Photographs by Jim Rae

Total people count for June = 1,215 - Average number per day = 41

These figures only indicate the visitors entering the Reserve via the Reserve Car Park, they do not include the many people who access the Reserve and Woodland Walks via the Cemetery entrance.

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