Lockerbie Wildlife Trust

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

Eskrigg Reserve
July 2026 News Bulletin

Scottish Charity No: SC 005538

1. **View of the pond from the jetty on the 30th of July**

2. **Reported wildlife sightings at the Reserve during July**

   a. **Birds:**
   Blackbird, Blackcap, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Coal Tit, Collared Dove, Crossbill, Curlew, Dunnock, Fieldfare, Garden Warbler, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Goshawk, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, Greylag Goose, Herring Gull, House Martin, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Linnet, Little Grebe, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Mallard, Mistle Thrush, Moorhen, Nuthatch, Oystercatcher, Pheasant, Pied Wagtail, Raven, Red Kite, Redpoll, Redstart, Redwing, Reed Bunting, Robin, Sedge Warbler, Siskin, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Spotted Flycatcher, Starling, Stockdove, Stonechat, Swallow, Treecreeper, Tree Sparrow, Whitethroat, Willow Warbler, Woodcock, Woodpigeon, Wren, Yellowhammer

   b. **Mammals:** Bank Vole, Grey Squirrel, Hare, Mole, Rabbit, Red Squirrel, Stoat, Weasel, Woodmouse

   c. **Amphibians:** Frog, Toad

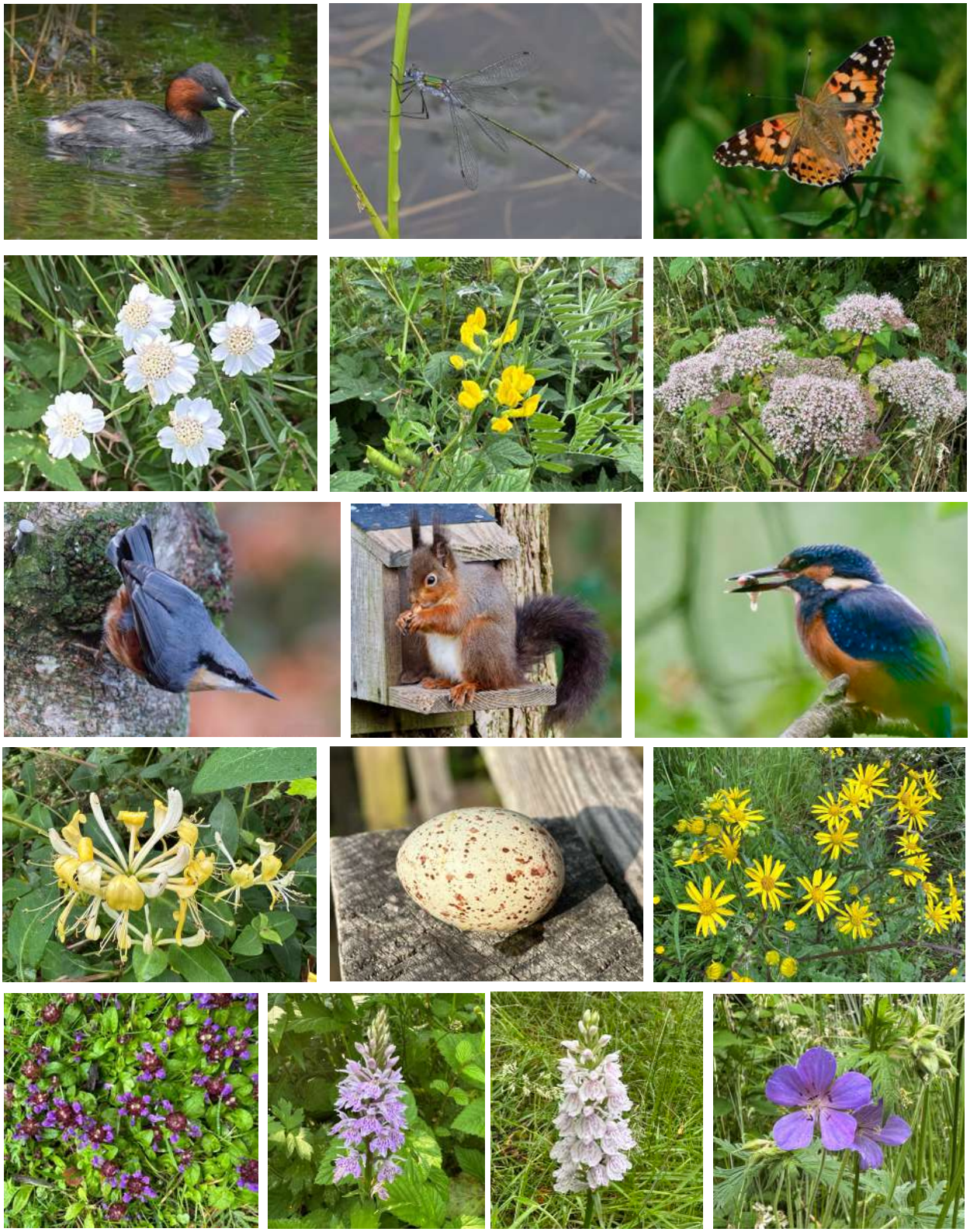
   d. **Butterflies:** Green-veined White, Large White, Painted Lady, Red Admiral, Ringlet, Small Tortoiseshell, Small White

   e. **Dragonflies:** Common Hawker
   Damselflies: Common Blue, Emerald

Little Grebe with 6 chicks (BF) 02.07.26

Photographs by Jim Rae (JR) Barbara Furphy (BF)

3. Selection of photographs taken in July



Row 1 (CL): Little Grebe, Emerald Damselfly (m), Painted Lady
Row 2 (JR): Sneezewort, Meadow Vetchling, Wild Angelica
Row 3 (RA): Nuthatch, Red Squirrel, Kingfisher
Row 4 (JR): Honeysuckle, Moorhen egg, Marsh Ragwort
Row 5 (JR): Selfheal, Common Spotted Orchid, Heath Spotted Orchid, Meadow Crane's-bill

Photographs by Ritchie Arnott (RA), Caroline Legg (CL), Jim Rae (JR)

4. Maintenance work

Wed. 01 & Thu. 02 Jaydin Scott helped **Jim Rae** by pruning the bushes and cutting the self-seed trees while **Jim** strimmed the sides of the path along part of the Northern Loop.

On the afternoon of the **2nd, Jim** started tiding up the paths around Pearl's Place.

Fri. 03 Derek Campbell, Sam Pattinson and **Gary McVittie** worked with **Jim** to lay fresh gravel on the paths next to Pearl's Place.

In the afternoon, **Jim** carried out his weekly 'Poo Patrol' and emptied the dog and litter bins.

Sat. 04 **Jim** carried out his monthly Flowering Plant Survey.

Tue. 07 **Jaydin** and **Jim** pruned the trees and strimmed the edges of the path round the Northern Loop.

Wed. 08 In the morning, while **Jim** strimmed the area opposite the Centre, **Jaydin** cleared the area around the Duck Feeder. They both then strimmed and raked the area adjacent to the Red Squirrel Hide.

In the afternoon, **Jim** strimmed and raked the first two sections of the path from the Forest Road to Pearl's Place.

Thu. 09 In the morning, **Jaydin** and **Jim** resurfaced the first section of the path to Pearl's Place with 10mm sub-base.

In the afternoon, **Jim** raked up the pine needles along the path from the Forest Road into the Reserve and the path at the start of the Southern Loop, as far as the bridge.

Fri. 10 **Jim** strimmed the path to the Kingfisher Hide in the morning and raked the path in the afternoon.

Wed. 15 In the morning, **Jim** strimmed the area around the bench seats and cleaned out the nearby ditches.

In the afternoon, he strimmed the west side of the feeder burn between the silt trap and the pond.

Thu. 16 In the morning, **Jim** removed all plant material from the feeder burn and left the material on the path to dry out. In the afternoon, he cut down any branches that were overhanging the burn.

Fri. 17 In the morning, **Derek Campbell** and **Jim Rae** worked on the Southern Loop. They strimmed and raked the rest of the path leading up to Pearl's Place (1) and then started on the Pipeline Walk (2). In the afternoon, **Jim** completed another section of the Pipeline Walk (3).

Sun. 19 In the morning, **Gordon Reid** and **Jim Rae** strimmed and raked the middle section of the Pipeline Walk and in the afternoon **Derek Campbell** and **Jim** completed the reinstatement of the pipeline walk

Tue. 21 While **Jim Rae** strimmed and raked the path round the Picnic Area and tidied up around the Shelter, **Jaydin Scott** cleared the path beside the feeder burn. Both then strimmed and raked the area next to the silt trap where the Apple Trees were planted.

Wed. 22 **Jaydin** strimmed and raked the path that runs parallel to the Dumfries Road while **Jim** strimmed and raked the area at the entrance to the Forest Road opposite the Cemetery Lodge. They then strimmed and raked one side of the Forest Road for a hundred metres.

Thu. 23 Jaydin and **Jim** strimmed and raked another 100m stretch of the Forest Road.

Tue. 28 Jim strimmed and raked the Reserve Car Park while **Jaydin** strimmed and raked the path leading down from the Car Park to the Reserve.

Wed. 29 Jaydin and **Jim** strimmed and raked the path from the granite seat to the broad bridge across the feeder burn. They then trimmed the hedge and strimmed the path at the end of the Northern Loop before raking up and disposing of all the cuttings.

Meanwhile, **Sybille Spägele** cleared the plants from under the jetty then removed self-seeded trees and Rosebay Willowherb from the heathland area.

Fri. 31 Jim strimmed the grass at the right side of the path as you enter the Reserve from the Forest Road, the area around the Compost Toilet and the area around the Solar Panels. He then raked the paths in those areas.

Total people count for July = 1,604 - Average number per day = 52

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.

Jim Rae (Eskrigg Reserve Manager)
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