



## Chair's welcome

Jim Crumley, the renowned nature writer, recently welcomed members to the Trust's AGM and Members' Gathering in Birnam, Highland Perthshire. Speaking about Robert Burns' influence on John Muir, Jim reminded us that the poet was among the first to recognise the social union between nature and man. By apologising to an animal in poems like *To a Mouse*, Burns communicated that humans are a part of nature, not apart from nature. Jim's view is that such writing must have helped crystallize Muir's own thoughts.

Many years later, we are still fighting to make the importance of protecting wild land for the benefit of people and nature universally accepted, and it was heartening to meet and talk with so many like-minded colleagues and friends across the AGM weekend. Many of the conversations I had with those in attendance reminded me of the importance of balancing our founding principles and ethos with making sure we inspire more people to work in partnership with us to protect wild land and the very concept of wildness in ways that make the Trust relevant in today's society.

Being in Highland Perthshire for the weekend, we got to hear and visit with those involved in the Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership. The Trust has been integral to this project that connects six areas of land with the aim of creating a linked woodland corridor stretching across more than 3,000 hectares, from the Keltneyburn Special Area of Conservation all the way to Loch Tummel. We learnt more about how that partnership is supporting diverse projects that are training young people in rural skills; planting trees and giving disabled people access to wild places. Eight of the members of the Heart of Scotland Partnership recently committed time to visit the Trondheim area of Norway to participate in a training course hosted by Duncan Halley of the Norwegian Institute of Nature Research and kindly funded by the Erasmus+ programme. That's inspiring them to think further about the future of the initiative.

You'll have noticed with the recent launch of our Wild Woods appeal that we've given woodlands a renewed focus. On behalf of the staff team, sincere thanks to everyone who has supported our aim to plant 50,000 trees at our Knoydart and Skye properties this year. The oceanic woodlands of the west coast often show little or no regeneration due to over-grazing, invasive rhododendron, and commercial conifer plantation, while ash woods are under specific threat of dieback disease. With evidence of accelerating climate change, these precious and fragile habitats are in real



PHOTOGRAPH: KEVIN LLELAND

danger of disappearing completely. The Trust looks after seven properties with the highest conservation importance within the Atlantic Woodland zone, including three on Skye, two in Sutherland and one each in Knoydart and Lochaber and as a result we've also signed-up and become a major partner in a new Atlantic Woodland Alliance aiming to protect Scotland's rainforest.

Finally, I want to send best wishes to Andrew Bachell. After 39 years in conservation, the Trust's chief executive has decided to retire later this year. Over the past two years he's worked with myself, trustees and staff to draft a new strategy, build an effective staff team and support several new initiatives. There will be further opportunities to thank him for his contribution and he will hand over the Trust to a successor in as healthy a position as we've been in for some time.

My thanks to him and my fellow trustees for their tireless work in service of the Trust during his tenure, and once again thank you to all our members and supporters - without whom we cannot move forward in the spirit of John Muir.

**Peter Pearson**

## News in brief

### • Trust rejoins LINK

The Trust has reinstated its membership of the national umbrella organisation, Scottish Environment LINK where we will be involved in a number of working groups and be part of a wider coalition campaigning for a world-class Scottish Environment Act.

### • Himalayan tragedy

Our thoughts go out to the family and friends of Martin Moran and the climbing group he was leading, who disappeared making an attempt on an unclimbed, unnamed summit in the Himalaya – Peak 6477m – in early June 2019.

### • Honour for ex-trustee

Congratulations to Trust member number six and former trustee Rob Collister who has been awarded an MBE for services to mountaineering and conservation.

### • Taller turbines for Shetland

In our spring *Journal* we reported on Viking Energy's application to increase the height of the 103 turbines planned for its wind farm on Shetland by 10m, taking them to 155m tall. In May 2019 Scottish Government Ministers approved the application – the scheme has never been subject to the scrutiny of a Public Local Inquiry in spite of its scale.

### • Wind farms rulings

Following Public Local Inquiries, the Scottish Government has refused two wind farm applications at Upper Sonachan in Argyll and Dulater on the edge of the River Tay National Scenic Area, both of which the Trust had expressed some concern over.

A further application at Navidale near Helmsdale in Sutherland was rejected by Highland Council's North Planning Applications Committee due to adverse impacts on landscape, peatlands and the Causeymire and Knockfin Wild Land Area 36.

The Trust has submitted objections to three applications for wind farms in the Highlands – one near Lairg and two near Loch Glascarnoch – due to wild land and cumulative impact.

### • Hilltracks

A big thanks to everyone who wrote to their MSPs ahead of an important debate in the Scottish Parliament at which changes could have been made to the Planning Bill to tighten control over bulldozed vehicle tracks. Sadly, the changes proposed by Andy Wightman MSP were voted down. The Scottish Environment LINK Hilltracks campaign, in which the Trust actively participates, says there's still a compelling case for action – to boost local democracy, improve construction standards and protect precious environments.



PHOTOGRAPH: DAISY CLARK

## 5-point plan for net-zero carbon

The John Muir Trust has joined forces with nine other expert organisations in Scotland to propose a five-point plan to deliver net-zero carbon emissions by 2045 through woodland expansion and other nature-based programmes.

In a letter to Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, the group of ten suggests that the government could make dramatic progress towards meeting its ambitious carbon reduction targets by taking the following actions:

- Significantly increasing the proportions of new native woodland and productive broadleaved woodland. This woodland should be approximately equal to new areas of predominantly Sitka plantations.
- Encouraging community participation in afforestation through policies and levers such as land reform, the Land Use Strategy and Rural Development grants.
- Ensuring afforestation does not impact negatively on species which depend on open ground habitats such as peatlands and wetlands; and

that new tree planting does not result in major disturbance of soil that could trigger large fluxes of greenhouse gases.

- Reducing deer numbers to sustainable levels to allow natural regeneration of trees to occur. This would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from organic soils and would result in tree establishment and planting at lower public and private cost.

- Supporting small-scale forest businesses, agroforestry and productive mixed woodlands, with more timber being processed closer to the timber source, and commensurate reductions in emissions from timber transport.

Along with the John Muir Trust, the letter has also been signed by representatives of the Community Woodland Association; the Crichton Carbon Centre; the Forest Policy Group; Reforesting Scotland; the Royal Scottish Forestry Society; RSPB Scotland; the Scottish Wildlife Trust; Trees for Life; and Woodland Trust Scotland.

## Scotland's Landscape Alliance launched

The John Muir Trust was among 60 organisations that attended the launch of an initiative that aims to bring together a diverse range of groups with an interest in Scotland's landscapes, from engineers to mountaineers, from community landowners to health professionals.

Led by the National Trust for Scotland (represented by former John Muir Trust chief executive Stuart Brooks) and the Landscape Institute Scotland, the Scottish Landscape Alliance (SLA) event marks the start of a concerted effort to understand and maximise the economic, environmental, social, cultural, or health benefits of landscape.

Stuart Brooks said: "We are all well aware of how important Scotland's landscape is. It remains the top motivator for visitors to Scotland and is of high economic, social, environmental and emotional value."

"The SLA does not aim to stop progress, our landscapes are constantly evolving, but to collectively agree what we want from our landscapes.

"As a country we should work towards a planned approach that balances different needs but benefits everyone."

Bryophyte-rich  
ravine at  
Beinn Eighe



# Joint effort to save fragile rainforests

PHOTOGRAPH: STAN PHILLIPS

## The Trust signs up to a new alliance to protect and expand the remnants of Scotland's rainforests

A new coalition of conservation organisations – the Atlantic Woodland Alliance – has been founded to help save and revitalise the ancient temperate rainforests of Scotland's west coast.

This unique habitat of native oak, birch, ash, pine and hazel woodlands alongside crags, ravines, gorges and open glades is home to numerous species of birds, insects, plants and fungi. It is part of the larger Celtic rainforest that once flourished along the mild and wet western coastal stretches of Scotland, Wales, Cornwall and Ireland. Seven John Muir Trust properties in Skye, Knoydart, Lochaber and Assynt are located within the Atlantic woodland zone.

A good example of this habitat could contain over 200 different species of bryophytes, such as the deceptive featherwort and the greater fork moss, and over 150 different species of lichen, such as tree lungwort and golden specklebelly.

The launch of the Alliance, which is led by Woodland Trust Scotland, was accompanied by the publication of a new report,

*The State of Scotland's Rainforests*, which sets out the scale of the challenge and calls for joint action to reduce grazing pressures, control invasive species, expand and connect the remaining fragmented rainforest sites and restore those that have been damaged by detrimental land management practices.

Mike Daniels, the Trust's head of land management, said: "Saving our rainforests is a global conservation priority. Few people realise that rainforests aren't just in the tropics. It is vital that we work with partners in this coalition to ensure the long-term survival and enhancement of the Celtic rainforest in Scotland, including on the land that we manage on behalf of our members and local communities."

The other organisations that make up the Alliance are Butterfly Conservation Scotland, the Community Woodlands Association, Forestry and Land Scotland, Future Woodlands Scotland, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority, the National Trust for Scotland, Plantlife Scotland, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, RSPB Scotland, Scottish Forestry, Scottish Land and Estates, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Scottish Wildlife Trust and Trees for Life.

## Trust calls for national plan to relieve tourist pressures

As an NGO that manages some of Scotland's most attractive landscapes, the Trust has written to Scottish Cabinet Ministers Roseanna Cunningham and Fiona Hyslop to ask for a preliminary discussion on the impact on local

communities and the natural environment of rising visitor numbers.

We have welcomed recent national initiatives such as the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund and are now urging the Scottish Government to explore the

possibility of a coordinated national approach that would include assessing and managing negative social and environmental impacts, while maintaining the benefits of tourism by improving facilities and services.



Andrew Bachell welcomes people to Birnam. Below: Toby Clark gives a staff update

PHOTOGRAPHS: KEVIN LELLAND AND DAISY CLARK

## Trust members gather in Big Tree Country

Alongside speeches, poetry, ceilidh music and local excursions, this year's AGM took place in the Highland Perthshire village of Birnam

The spring bank holiday weekend brought 100 delegates to the Trust's Annual General Meeting and Members' Gathering weekend held at the Arts and Conference Centre in Birnam, Highland Perthshire on 24 and 25 May.

Local speakers entertained and updated the audience at an informal social reception on the Friday evening.

They included nature writer Jim Crumley; some members of the Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership (Schiehallion manager Liz Auty and our neighbours, Jez Robinson from Dalchosnie and Kynachan Estate, and Andrew Walker from the Highland Perthshire Community Land Trust's Dun Coillich); plus John Muir Award Scotland manager Toby Clark and poet and playwright Lesley Wilson.

The next morning, Martin Davidson from the Outward Bound Trust paid tribute to a close partnership with our John Muir Award that goes back 15 years.

A series of staff reports then described how the Trust is delivering the priorities set out in our new three-year strategy.

They ranged over a number of themes, including how we are: forming closer connections to local communities; dealing with visitor pressures in and around our properties; continuing to protect wild places from unsuitable development; running a professional, financially sustainable organisation; encouraging people to connect with nature and the outdoors through the John Muir Award; and growing our membership.

Trust chair Peter Pearson then opened the formal AGM by taking a brief look

back at some 2018 highlights. He thanked all those staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the past year to help deliver the Trust's mission.

Finance committee convenor Jim Gibson praised the generosity of our members and supporters, noting that we have just had a strong financial year – although a significant portion of the money we raised is restricted for specific purposes.

There was no need for a trustees election. John Finney, a former trustee, has returned to serve a further term as trustee, while Gair Brisbane, Xander McDade and Philip Graves were announced as new trustees, leaving one place vacant.

Peter Pearson thanked the outgoing trustees – David Broom, Peter Foulkes, Jo Moulin, Richard Williams and Douglas Wynn – for the work they have done during their time in office.

Delegates then debated three special resolutions to update the articles of association (which requires a 75 per cent majority vote).

The first, to increase membership subscription rates, was passed overwhelmingly. The second, concerning eligibility to nominate and vote in trustee elections, prompted a number of delegates to express concern that three separate points had been incorporated into a single resolution.

In response, the chair recommended

that the conference vote down the resolution to allow the three issues to be brought back to the 2020 AGM and voted upon separately.

After a third resolution, dealing with potential conflicts of interest on the board of trustees, was passed by a huge majority, there was a call for a ballot of all members on the issue. Although it narrowly crossed the threshold of 5% of those present, supporters of the ballot later decided to withdraw, which means the resolution stands.

Fortified by a healthy lunch of local produce, some people headed off into the drizzle to explore Birnam and the Hermitage, the Loch of the Lowes nature reserve, Schiehallion, Quarrymill

Woodland Park and the Corbenic Camphill poetry path. Others joined in a policy discussion at the venue. On their return, members were greeted with a warming meal and rousing music from Pete Clark and his ceilidh band.

A huge thank you to Mountain Equipment, who sponsored the weekend.

We are also grateful to

the other organisations and individuals who helped make the Gathering so enjoyable including our Heart of Scotland Forest Partners; SWT; NTS; the Camphill community at Corbenic; Quarrymill Woodland Park/RSPB Scotland; James, Drew and the rest of the Birnam Arts Centre team; and everyone who contributed towards our 2019 Prize Draw.

The dates and location for the 2020 AGM will be communicated in due course.





Pupils from Kinlochberrie High School drew inspiration from local wildlife

# Wildlife etchings unveiled at Sandwood

A year-long project in the North West of Scotland came to a satisfying end on a blustery afternoon at the end of May. Pupils from Kinlochberrie High School proudly unveiled their artwork which has been captured on etched stones in our Sandwood car park for all to enjoy.

The project was initiated by the John Muir Trust's Sandwood manager, Don O'Driscoll, who took the young people on a nature walk and invited them to draw their inspiration from the area's wildlife.

Their resulting images of an adder, a curlew and a frog – among others – highlight some of the biodiversity that our designated Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest has to offer.

The unveiling marked the end of an 18-month Coastal Community Fund (CCF) project which saw the Trust

working with crofters and the local community to enhance the facilities around the Sandwood Bay area and tackle the impact of increasing visitor numbers.

During this time, there has been lots happening including: a family fun day at Oldshoremore; school outings; upgrade of the toilet block; resurfacing of the track and car park; new stiles put in the core path network; and new interpretation panels that are due to go up soon.

The pupils seemed pleased to see their artwork etched into stone to be enjoyed for generations to come.

Afterwards, to complete the celebrations, they searched in the stone benches for hidden chocolates. Huge thanks to the local community, Kinlochberrie High School teachers Alison Wood and Graeme Smart, and contractors George Gunn and Monumental Masons.



## Grounds for hope

Responding to the recent damning report from the United Nations on the global biodiversity crisis, the Trust's head of land management Mike Daniels highlighted some grounds for hope.

"This echoes various *State of Nature* reports covering the nations of the UK, which show a devastating decline of bird, plant and insect species since 1970. But recent events demonstrate that the next generation is prepared to take action to protect our planet from further ecological impoverishment.

"Growing numbers of young people are challenging climate change and biodiversity loss in a variety of ways, from participating in high-profile protests to carrying out vital nature conservation work on the ground – including through our own John Muir Award. We need to support this generation and invest more time, money and energy inspiring people from all backgrounds to make nature an everyday part of life."

## John Muir Award contributes £750k to Scotland's environment

A year-long monitoring exercise auditing the amount and type of activity carried out by young people in Scotland to meet the Conserve Challenge of the John Muir Award has produced some impressive findings.

The audit found that nearly 20,000 young people contributed on average over 10 hours to environmental action during 2018 through achieving their John Muir Award. In total, the 200,000 hours involved would be worth over £750,000 based on how the National Lottery Heritage Fund calculates the value of volunteer labour, using variable hourly rates based on skills, age and experience.

Thirty per cent of activity was carried out by young people experiencing disadvantage, and participation was closely split between males (52 per cent) and females (48 per cent).

Young people planted nearly 13,000 trees, collected over 5,000 bags of rubbish, and maintained over 8km of footpaths. They gathered valuable data through citizen science surveys, started or joined environmental campaigns, and minimised their own impact on wild places.

The Audit was carried out to celebrate young people's environmental contribution during Scottish Government's Year of Young People 2018. It helps continue a focus on supporting young people's nature connection through Year of Green Action 2019 and #iwill4nature campaigns.



Tree planting on East Schiehallion

PHOTOGRAPH: SANDY MAXWELL



## Path repairs at Schiehallion

We're delighted to report that work to carry out essential repairs and improvements to the Schiehallion path will be going ahead in August, following a successful fundraising appeal launched last autumn. Thanks to generous donations from members and supporters, as well as significant contributions from Simeon Moller and members of The Network for Social Change, donations to the path project have now surpassed the £60,000 target.

The Schiehallion path will be open to walkers as usual during the repairs. You can follow updates from the project on our social media channels, or by subscribing to our email newsletters at [johnmuirtrust.org/newsletter](http://johnmuirtrust.org/newsletter)

## Wild Woods Appeal update

A massive thank you to everyone who has donated so generously to our Wild Woods Appeal. We've had a fantastic response so far – at time of writing you had given over £35,000 in just six weeks to help restore woodlands on Skye and Knoydart.

Your donations to the Wild Woods Appeal will help to plant and protect 50,000 trees on Li and Coire Dhorraicail on Knoydart, and the Strathaird peninsula on Skye, restoring native woodlands and creating habitat for woodland species.

Mike Daniels, head of land management for the Trust, said: "With the recent declarations of climate and biodiversity emergencies there has never been a more urgent need for woodland. Trees are a natural climate solution – soaking up carbon and reducing rainfall runoff while providing a home for our wildlife. The Trust is keen to play its part and the generous support received so far shows that you, our members, are too."

If you'd still like to support the Wild Woods Appeal, you can donate online at [johnmuirtrust.org/wildwoods](http://johnmuirtrust.org/wildwoods) or call 01796 470 080.

The John Muir Trust would also like to thank the Kestrelman Trust for their very generous gift to this project.

# Nordic lessons for Perthshire



Eight members of the Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership visited the Trondheim area of Norway this May to participate in a training course hosted by Duncan Halley of the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research and funded through the Erasmus+ programme.

"The trip was informative and inspiring and all the participants gained a huge amount," said Schiehallion land manager Liz Auty.

"Our next step is to take these insights forward into our collective work in Highland Perthshire, so watch this space for further news!"

The Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership connects six areas of land with the aim of creating a linked woodland corridor stretching across more than 3,000 hectares, from the Keltneburn Special Area of Conservation all the way to Loch Tummel.

Find out more at [johnmuirtrust.org/heartofscotland](http://johnmuirtrust.org/heartofscotland)



Duncan Halley's photo of the Erasmus trip to Norway shows members of the Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership

## Trust team grows

The Trust was established "to conserve and protect wild places with their indigenous animals, plants and soils for the benefit of present and future generations" (Memorandum of Association 1983). Almost 36 years later we are working harder than ever to protect and conserve, repair and rewild wild places – as well as inspire and connect people to them.

To help achieve these aims, our team now numbers 55 dedicated people including new starts in the land team – Richard Williams (land operations manager), Sarah Livingstone (Glenludde, pictured here with Karen Purvis), John Macrae (Skye) and Carrie Weager (Sandwood) – plus new policy officer Hebe Carus and engagement officer Ross Brannigan.

This year we have also said goodbye



to some long serving members of staff: head of policy Helen McDade has left after 13 years; policy officer John Low has left after five years and John Muir Award administrator Cristie Moore has left after 10 years. The Trust thanks them for their contribution across the years and wishes them well for the future.



Volunteers beach clean with the West Harris Trust, pull rhododendrons on Knoydart and protect trees at Glen Tanar



PHOTOGRAPH: SANDY MAXWELL

# 2019 conservation work party update

**Sandy Maxwell** reports on a busy start to our work party year

We are almost a third of the way into the 2019 work party programme and 56 volunteers have already donated over 200 hard working days. These range from building brash hedges for new trees on the Corrou estate to beach cleaning on remote Harris beaches such as Traigh Crabhadail. You can see pictures of these work parties on our new Facebook page [www.facebook.com/groups/johnmuirtrustvolunteers](http://www.facebook.com/groups/johnmuirtrustvolunteers)

In 2019 over 2,000 trees were planted on work parties at Schiehallion, Ardvourlie community woodland on Harris and inside the brash hedges at Corrou. We also carried out path repairs and maintenance on both sides of Ladhair Bheinn working on ground owned by the Trust in Coire Dhorrcail as well as on the stalker's path from Follach, which is on Knoydart Foundation land. Regular maintenance has looked after the Sandwood Bay, Bla Bheinn and East Schiehallion paths.

We collected the equivalent of around 11 one tonne helibags of rubbish from beaches from Luskentyre to Sandwood Bay. At Sandwood, we carried the rubbish out several miles to places where it can be picked up by a vehicle. The beach clean on Luskentyre was part of the national

Surfers Against Sewage beach clean locally organised by the West Harris Trust.

Other work party activities have included hand pulling self-seeded spruce in regenerating native woodland; continuing to help Knoydart Forest Trust with rhododendron control; painting the toilet block at the Sandwood Bay car park; and helping the community to roll up a redundant power line at Inverie village on Knoydart.

Still to come, we have two more visits to Sandwood and two weeks on the Western Isles where we will be hosted by two of the burgeoning community owned estates: the North and West Harris Trusts.

We also have three planned work parties with our Coigach Assynt Living Landscape (CALL) project partners, including on our own property, Quinag, and a week on the community-owned Isle Martin.

Shorter work parties of one to three days will be held on Ben and Glen Nevis, Glenridding Common, East Schiehallion and, at the end of the year, on Glenludde.

Find out more about our conservation work parties at [johnmuirtrust.org/workparties2019](http://johnmuirtrust.org/workparties2019) and at [johnmuirtrust.org/latest/events](http://johnmuirtrust.org/latest/events)



## Trust helps showcase citizen science

The Trust helped showcase the impact of citizen science at a Scottish Parliament reception in early June, demonstrating how wild places and initiatives like the Trust's John Muir Award can support people to learn about science and maths.

Speakers at the reception also included other members of Scottish Environment LINK (the forum for Scotland's voluntary environmental organisations), and Scotland's Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment, Mairi Gougeon. She linked the current climate emergency with biodiversity decline, urging the audience to get involved in mitigating the effects of climate change and explaining the vital role of citizen science in these efforts.



# Get together

Our new Pitlochry-based engagement officer, Ross Brannigan (pictured below, running the Trotternish Ridge Race on Skye in June) makes a request.

"I'm excited to be working directly with you, helping to spread the word about why we need to protect and conserve some of our most beautiful landscapes.

"I look forward to meeting you at events, where I'll be working to raise the profile of the Trust and encourage others to help us by becoming members or engaging with our activities. I can't do it all alone, though!

"To help us spread the word about wild places, educate people and build the influence and membership of the Trust, we're looking to establish new Local Members' Groups across the UK.

"No matter where you are, if you want to link up with nearby Trust members, let people know how they can find wildness, or organise your own work parties in a local patch, please get in touch. We can help you get the ball rolling and connect you to other interested members."

To find out more, email [ross.brannigan@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:ross.brannigan@johnmuirtrust.org) or call 01796 484970

PHOTOGRAPH: JORDAN YOUNG



PHOTOGRAPH: DENIS MOLLISON

## Wild Moment: Reflections by Denis Mollison

Wave after wave runs up the shore,  
as each falls back it turns to glass.

The sands on which I walk are gone;  
instead the cliff and birds and clouds  
are duplicated upside down.

How can a mirror feel so soft?  
Why do I feel the ground at all  
if I am walking on the clouds?

How easy walking on the edge  
to disappear into the mind.

Mind lost in thoughts, the body still  
finds easy walking on the edge.

My feet forgotten in the clouds  
support my way unconsciously,  
the ground feels neither hard nor soft.

The clouds still drift, the birds fly on,  
not knowing they are upside down,  
flying beneath the mirror sands;

until the glass turns back to foam  
as the next wave runs up the shore.

**See Trust founder Denis Mollison's exhibition, Portraits of the Edge, at the Wild Space in Pitlochry from 19 July – 2 August. Share your own wild moment at [johnmuirtrust.org/wild-moments](http://johnmuirtrust.org/wild-moments)**

### MEMBERS' GROUPS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### Edinburgh

**9 November**, save the date for the Edinburgh Members' Gathering at the Augustine United Church in Edinburgh. Contact: [edinburgh@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:edinburgh@johnmuirtrust.org)

#### North East Scotland

Monthly regular dates at Glen Tanar, **20 July, 17 August, 21 September, 19 October, 16 November, 14 December**.

**8 August and 4 October**, assist with conservation tasks on the Balmoral Estate.

**29-30 October**, assist with conservation tasks on the Mar Lodge Estate.

**31 October**, all welcome at the NE Scotland Local Members' Group Gathering at Aberdeen University with outdoor writer and photographer

David Lintern. Contact James Brownhill and the team at [nescotland@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:nescotland@johnmuirtrust.org) if you want to come along to any work parties or events.

#### North West England

**13-15 September**, Glenridding Common work party. Contact [sandy.maxwell@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:sandy.maxwell@johnmuirtrust.org)

**4-6 October**, Restoring Hardknott Forest residential weekend, staying in a camping barn in Duddon Valley. Email John Hodgson at [J.H.Hodgson@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:J.H.Hodgson@leeds.ac.uk) for more information and to book your space.

#### Southern England

**24 July**, Southern Members' Gathering at King Street Brewery, Bristol from 7.15pm

**Visit our website for further details of all events!**

## Tell us your news!

What have Trust members and local groups been up to? Tell us your news and stories.

Email [ross.brannigan@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:ross.brannigan@johnmuirtrust.org)

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COVER BANNER IMAGE: SILVER BIRCH (BETULA PENDULA), GLEN AFFRIC, SCOTLAND BY MARK HAMBLIN/SCOTLANDBIGPICTURE.COM

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