

MEMBERS' NEWS

JULY 2018

JOHN
MUIR
TRUST



Chair's welcome

The first half of this year has felt like a period of marking occasions while planning confidently for the future.

I was delighted to recently join current and past trustees at an event in Dunbar commemorating the 180th anniversary of John Muir's birth. The occasion was all the more special because, for only the fifth time since the inception of the Trust, a lifetime achievement award was made. This time it was to Larry Downing, the Trust's 100th member, former president of the Sierra Club and renowned United States based conservationist. We welcomed him back to Dunbar for a repeat performance of the speech he made exactly 30 years after the public launch of the John Muir Trust in the same place on 21 April 1998.

Like John Muir, Larry is a great communicator who has devoted his life to campaigning for the protection of wild places. His trip to Scotland also saw him returning to Knoydart to see first-hand the ecological restoration of a place he had been pivotal in helping the Trust to secure in its early years. Larry's visit reminded me of the importance of growing and developing long-term partnerships.

Our recent AGM in Glenridding was a resounding success. Some even told me they thought it was our best AGM yet. While we've been operating in the Lake District for many years, mainly through the John Muir Award, we are now forging new relationships with the local community built on the back of a healthy, transparent and respectful dialogue.

As I write this, I am looking forward to spending time next weekend working with some of the Trust's staff at the Keswick Mountain Festival - a new event for us to attend as we build awareness of our work on Glenridding Common and its associated mountain Helvellyn.

After receiving two invitations to Buckingham Palace in the first half of the year, I felt like I had been waiting for a bus! It was a privilege to join others at the 70th birthday of our patron Prince Charles and the 60th anniversary of the Garfield Weston Foundation - which is a significant supporter of the Trust's John Muir Award, so I was pleased to be able to thank their team.

Recent trustee discussions have included inputting to the Trust's latest corporate strategy. It's an important document as we continue on a positive trajectory. The document recognises



PHOTOGRAPH: KAREN PURVIS

the need for us to adapt and evolve to make sure that we continue to punch above our weight and remain at the cutting edge of wild nature conservation.

Our future plans will see us ensure that we are relevant to a younger audience. I am therefore delighted that the land team is growing with a group of new apprentices. Our thanks go to the ALA Green Charitable Trust for funding several posts across the next two years enabling several young people to make a start in a conservation career while allowing the Trust to do even more on our properties.

On a lighter note, if like me you love the landscape at Assynt do consider watching the film *Edie*. It stars Sheila Hancock as an octogenarian who decides to climb Suilven. We've been proud to carry out extensive restoration work on the mountain's steep slopes with the Assynt Foundation under the umbrella of the Coigach and Assynt Living Landscape Partnership. If the film drives more visitors to this special place then the mountain should now be much more ready for it.

Finally, my thanks to all members and supporters. Your support allows us to care for and protect wild places and inspire people about their importance.

Peter Pearson

First thousand trees planted at the Heart of Scotland Forest



PHOTOGRAPHS: JOHN MUIR TRUST

MSc students from Edinburgh Napier University helping with the planting

Schiehallion Land Manager **Liz Auty** updates us on the progress of the groundbreaking Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership project

Thanks to everyone who donated to our Heart of Scotland Forest Appeal, it's been a busy time at Schiehallion over the winter and spring. Despite the fact that we had a tough winter (and it was beginning to feel a bit like Narnia at one stage) we have been moving forward with our woodland plan as part of our work with the Heart of Scotland Partnership. We've had great help and advice from Iain Moss at Woodland Trust Scotland, and from Heather Hamilton and Willie McGhee at Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust.

Contractor Euro Forest has now felled and extracted three hectares of conifer plantation - mainly Sitka spruce and lodgepole pine.

Following on from this, Robertson Fencing has been working to install a new deer fence to enclose the area where new trees will be planted. Part of this work will involve replanting the areas that have been felled. We are also creating 4.5 hectares of new woodland and we expect that there will be additional areas where trees will regenerate naturally.

With the deer fence almost complete, work is now starting on the electric fence out to Glen Mhor, which will enclose another, larger area of around 72 hectares to allow natural regeneration to take place.

Visitors to the yurt during Karen Rann's residency (see facing page) planted trees in the first week of her visit, then were joined in the second week for more tree-planting by MSc students from Edinburgh Napier University and by all the pupils from the nearby Kenmore Primary School. Finally a group from George Watson's college also helped with planting as part of their Conserve John Muir Award challenge. In total, we have now planted the first 1,000 trees, in the area close to the Braes of Foss car park.

We will be doing lots more planting in the autumn, so look out for opportunities to get involved.

Trust at Buckingham Palace garden party

Prince Charles invited more than 6,000 representatives from the 386 charities and other organisations he supports to his 70th birthday garden party at Buckingham Palace. Pictured here is the John Muir Trust contingent (The Prince of Wales has been patron of the Trust since 1989).



Staff members, trustees, volunteers and Award recipients at the garden party



Contours and ceilidh music

In April the Trust supported Artlink Central and Creative Scotland to host a fantastic mini-festival based around Schiehallion

The Lines of Attraction festival involved a fortnight of events, overlapping with John Muir Day, based on artist Karen Rann's exhibition, *The Great Lines*, in the Alan Reece Gallery in our Wild Space visitor centre in Pitlochry.

Karen, who has been researching the story of contour lines for a couple of years, wanted to involve the local community in a festival focused on the Schiehallion connection. As Trust members may be aware, contour lines were invented on Schiehallion by mathematician Charles Hutton as a by-product of Nevil Maskelyne's 1774 experiment to calculate the weight of the world.

For five days, Karen lived at Schiehallion in a traditional yurt which became the focal point for a variety of events including a black grouse watch, participatory art sessions and draw-knife woodworking. A group of disabled artists joined Karen to deliver art and music sessions, and the yurt also hosted informal drop-in discussion sessions around the wood-burning stove.

One memorable highlight was the Saturday evening ceilidh, an evening of music, storytelling and poetry featuring the Lus Collective of Scottish traditional musicians and friends. It evoked the memory of local fiddler Duncan Robertson whose instrument was lost in a bothy fire on the final night of the Maskelyne experiment. Fortunately there was no fire in the 2018 yurt (and in 1774 there was a happy ending when Maskelyne, after returning to London, sent Duncan a replacement fiddle).

The second weekend of the festival included an afternoon of talks and music presenting four views of Schiehallion. This included insights on early maps in Perthshire from Chris Fleet of the National Library of Scotland and a talk by Robin Johnson about Charles Hutton's role in the Schiehallion experiment. As part of this, the custodian of Duncan Robertson's fiddle – from the Clan Donnachie Society – gave permission for Fiona Farris from the Lus Collective to play the legendary instrument.

The Trust thanks all those who made it all happen.

News in brief

Area 34 wind farms refused by Scottish Ministers

In May, the Trust was delighted by the news that Scottish Ministers had refused the Caplich wind farm in Sutherland (focus of our Area 34 campaign in 2015) and the Culachy development near Fort Augustus, referring to their landscape impact on two recognised Wild Land Areas. These decisions were clearly influenced by written and oral evidence from the Trust.

Strathy South wind farm approved

Conversely, we were disappointed that Scottish Ministers approved the 39-turbine Strathy South Wind Farm on the edge of the Flow Country in Sutherland. The Trust has suggested that national investment in the restoration of peatland and other habitats would be a more effective way of tackling carbon emissions and would have the potential to create more sustainable, long-term jobs.

Keep it Wild campaign

The Trust recently welcomed the decision by the Scottish Parliament's Planning Committee to recommend that the new Planning Bill incorporate a Purpose of Planning to help create high quality places and to protect the environment.

MSPs also highlighted long-standing calls from communities and campaigners for a fairer planning system that allows for Equal Rights of Appeal.

Following briefings from the Trust, wild land protection was referenced by two MSPs during a Parliamentary debate on the Bill at the end of May.

As the Bill progresses to the next stage, we are encouraging MSPs to table amendments that will offer stronger environmental and wild land protection, and a fairer planning system. We are grateful to Trust members for their help so far.

Caithness wind farm inquiry concludes

Andrew Bachell, Helen McDade and John Low represented the Trust at the recent Public Local Inquiry into the Limekiln and Drum Hollistan wind farms, urging Reporters to recommend refusal to Scottish Ministers. Evidence led on behalf of the Trust by Dr Steve Carver of the respected University of Leeds Wild Land Research Institute demonstrated the potential loss of wild land and pointed out that this would contradict current Scottish Planning Policy which promises "significant protection" for Wild Land Areas.

Trust calls for funding to mitigate transmission impacts

The Trust has submitted a response to a recent Ofgem consultation expressing concern at the lack of focus on Ofgem's environmental duties. The Trust repeated its long-standing call for the true costs of generation to be considered. Along with other environmental organisations, we stressed the need for further funding to mitigate the visual impact of transmission lines.

Concerns over Orkney wind farm

We have submitted comments on a proposal by Orkney Council to construct a wind farm of up to 30 turbines of up to 120m within and/or on the boundary of Wild Land Area 41: Hoy, expressing concerns about wild land, peat and socio-economic impacts.



Top: Hanging out in Glenridding

Below: Pete Barron (l) with Nick Austin of the Outward Bound Trust

Trust gathering creates ripples in the Lakeland

A high turnout saw 170 delegates attend the Trust's AGM and Members' Gathering weekend in Glenridding in the sunswept Lake District on the weekend of 11 and 12 May

We were welcomed to an informal social reception on the Friday evening by local speakers, including Rob Shephard, the Chair of the Patterdale Parish Council; Pete Barron, the Trust's local land manager; Julia Aglionby, the Executive Director of the Foundation for Common Land and life member of the Trust; and Joanne Backshall, the Programme Manager for Fix the Fells.

Graham Watson, who runs the John Muir Award locally in partnership with the Lake District National Park Authority, presented a framed certificate to Martin Cooper of the Outward Bound Trust to celebrate the 10,000 Awards they have helped deliver over the years.

The next morning, following a formal welcome from Kerry Powell, Director of Communications and Resources of the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNP), the Trust's management team gave short staff reports. These covered the wide range of work that the Trust is involved in, from dynamic land management of mountain landscapes to delivering the John Muir Award across the UK; from persuading politicians to protect and respect wild places to supporting and building the membership; from running a professional, financially sustainable organisation to communicating our ideas to the wider public.

Trust Chair Peter Pearson then opened the formal AGM. He pointed out that the

Trust's historic move into land management outside Scotland by taking on the lease for Glenridding Common offered an opportunity to raise our profile in England and make the Trust more physically accessible to our members south of the border. He thanked all those staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the past year to help deliver the Trust's mission of protecting and improving our wild places.

Finance Committee Convenor Douglas Wynn praised the generosity of our members and supporters, noting that we have had a strong financial year – although a significant portion of the money we have raised is restricted for specific purposes.

Sadly, Chief Executive Andrew Batchell was unable to attend the weekend because of a close family bereavement, so Kevin Lelland stepped in to talk

through the work that has been done so far in developing a new corporate strategy that sets out our ambitions and intentions from 2019 onwards.

Kerry Ross reported on the election for vacant trustees positions. Peter Pearson, Chris Townsend and Patricia Jordan were re-elected, while Jim Gibson, David Gibson (no relation) and Richard Williams were elected as new trustees. Peter Pearson thanked three outgoing trustees – Deirdre Wilson, Steve Green and Hugh Salvesen – for the work they have done during their time in office.

An extended Open Forum allowed delegates to ask about topics ranging from deer culling to rewilding, finances to future expansion. Naturally, given the venue, there was also great interest in our plans for managing Glenridding Common.

Fortified by a tasty lunch of local produce, some people headed off into the sunshine to explore Red Tarn, Greenside Mine or Ullswater, while others sampled the John Muir Award with the Outward Bound Trust or joined in a policy discussion in the public hall.

• A huge thanks to Mountain Equipment; the Outward Bound Trust; Jason and his team at Helvellyn Country Kitchen; Michelle at the Glenridding Public Hall; the Scotch Whisky Experience and everyone else who helped make this a great event.



PHOTOGRAPH: ROB BUSHHEY

Skye path project nears final stretch

As the Skye Wild Ways path project approaches its final phase over the summer months, we can report major progress so far this year.

At Allt Daraich, south east of Sligachan, 675m of new footpath was completed by ACT Heritage at the end of March. Part of the route through was badly damaged with multiple braid lines caused by areas of soft, deep peat wedged between exposed bedrock.

With no stone or aggregate on site, all materials had to be airlifted. Now that the work is complete, the vegetation on either side of the path line will be able to recover.

Over the winter months, Arran Footpaths completed repairs to a further 682m section of the Druim Hain path continuing from where they finished last winter. In total 1.45km of this path has been repaired over the past three years.

On 11 May, we completed consolidation work on the higher, steeper section of Bla Bheinn, heading up Coire Uaigneach.

During a pretty soggy week early in May, 10 students from the Conservation and Countryside Management course at the Elmwood campus of the Scottish Rural College repaired an 80m stretch of the Elgol coastal path. This involved building cross drains and digging ditches and surfacing works.

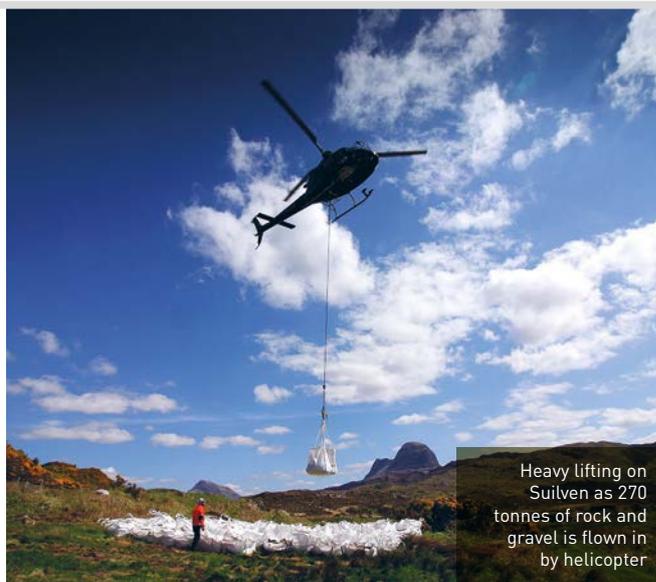
The quagmire that marred this beautiful spot at the base of Glen Scaladale has now been transformed into a fine piece of stonework that blends in nicely with the surrounding landscape.

• *The Trust wishes to thank everyone who has supported our general Wild Ways appeal, as well as the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Brown Forbes Memorial Fund, the Scottish Mountaineering Trust and the Kestrelman Trust, who helped fund the Skye Wild Ways project.*



Skye path workers back on course after a long hard winter in Glen Sligachan

PHOTOGRAPH: SARAH LEWIS



Heavy lifting on Suilven as 270 tonnes of rock and gravel is flown in by helicopter

PHOTOGRAPH: CHRIS GOODMAN

Suilven gets facelift as fame beckons

April saw the start of Phase 2 of the Suilven path repair work that the Trust is leading in partnership with the community landowner, the Assynt Foundation, under the wider umbrella of the Coigach & Assynt Living Landscape Partnership (CALLP).

Following work on 1km of the path in 2017, the second phase will focus on rebuilding an 800m stretch of the lower approach path, plus further work higher up to consolidate unstable sections along 200m of the steep ascent.

We had scheduled a helicopter to bring in 170 tonnes of gravel and over 100 tonnes of rocks in early May, but progress was hampered by blustery conditions. Towards the end of the month we

managed to complete the airlift in perfect weather conditions.

With the release of the film *Edie*, which features spectacular footage of the mountain, it's likely that foot pressure will increase, so the path work comes at a fortuitous time.

The release of the movie starring Sheila Hancock has already generated great interest across the media, including the popular tabloid press.

This year, CALLP will also support work on short sections of the Quinag path.

• *On behalf of the partners involved, the John Muir Trust thanks all those individuals and organisations who have helped us finance this great effort.*

Helvellyn Appeal update

Thanks to everyone who donated to our Helvellyn Appeal to raise funds for the management of Glenridding Common over the next three years. You've helped raise over £35,000 so far to help us look after this much-loved mountain landscape.

Pete Barron, Land Manager for Glenridding Common, said: "Our footpath contractors have made a start on urgent repairs and landscaping, species and habitat survey work is under way, the first arctic-alpine plant monitoring has been undertaken, and the downy willow cuttings are growing well prior to planting on the crags this autumn. Your support for this work is so important and we are very grateful."

You can still support this appeal by visiting johnmuirtrust.org/helvellynappeal or by calling 01796 470 080.



2018 conservation work party update

PHOTOGRAPH: SANDY MAXWELL

Sandy Maxwell reports on how our amazing volunteers are helping to restore the wild places in our care

Work parties in 2018 got off to a slow start when we had to cancel two at Glenlude and East Schiehallion due to snow cover. Once we were eventually under way, the weather improved and we had two largely sunny visits to Li & Coire Dhorrcail, planting trees as part of a well-attended work party on Skye. A lot of essential maintenance and some improvements were made to the paths on Bla Bheinn and along Glen Sligachan by the group of 16 volunteers.

A smaller but just as enthusiastic group spent a week based at Inverie helping with the Knoydart Foundation and the Knoydart Forest Trust. We were carrying on with two projects from the previous year: the rhododendron control programme which involves hand pulling self-seeded plants in an area above the village, and further work on the stalkers path up Ladhar Bheinn.

The next week-long work party was at the Corroul estate where for several years we have been helping out with conservation management. Last year we trialled a brash hedge on an area of spruce-felling beside Loch Ossian. This year, the head forester had arranged for a larger area to be specially felled to enable construction of a larger and stronger hedge, which we planted up with 500 trees – mostly willow, alder and birch. We also topped up the trial hedges from last year and carried on with the job of clearing self-seeded conifers from some of the large areas of planted and natural regenerated native woodland.

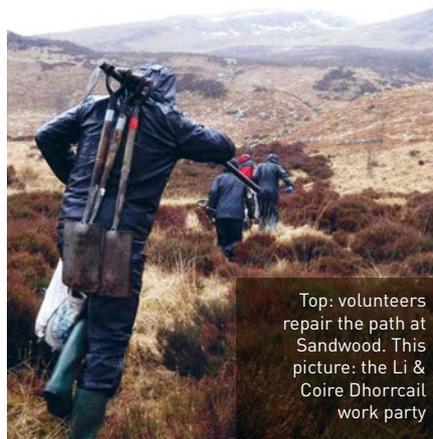
Carrying on the work parties with partners, at the start of May we spent a

largely wet and windy week on the Western Isles. This was the first of three visits planned for the year working with both the North and West Harris Trusts. In three days with the North Harris Trust, a large amount of rubbish was gathered on the beach at Teilesnish and we built another 25 metres of new path between Huishinis and Cravadale. At the end of the week, we were back to the West Harris Trust's new centre, Talla Na Mara, continuing to grass around it and planting 400 trees behind it. Despite the weather, we were joined for part of the time in the tree planting by a class of primary schoolchildren from the Sir E. Scott School in Tarbert as part of their John Muir Award.

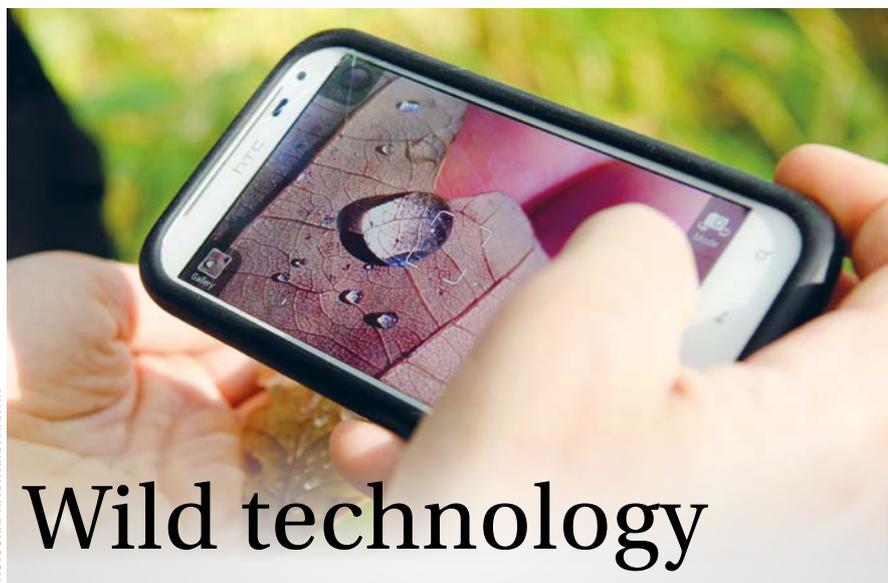
We ended the month with a return to two of our own properties – Sandwood and East Schiehallion. Recent publicity around beach litter has obviously had an effect as demonstrated by the fact that many members of the public were happy to help us carrying two trailer-loads of rubbish out along the path from Sandwood Bay. As usual, most of this was of marine origin (ropes, nets, floats etc.) but two abandoned tents, as well as other camping rubbish, were found. We also cleaned the other beaches around the property and carried out maintenance and repair work on the path.

At East Schiehallion, we repaired a small section of sheep fence and did some much-needed maintenance of the path.

Find out more about our conservation work parties at johnmuirtrust.org/workparties2018



Top: volunteers repair the path at Sandwood. This picture: the Li & Coire Dhorrcail work party



PHOTOGRAPH: KATRINA MARTIN

Wild technology

A free web-based resource launched by the Trust six months ago has proven to be a hit with over 50 users across the UK and over 500 posts. From camera trap pictures of badgers, to acrostic tree poems, John Muir Award Providers and participants are creatively sharing their experiences of wild places through the Record eBook.

The resource has had a further boost thanks to special digital funding from the Gannochy Trust. Now, a short John Muir Award Record eBook Information Film is encouraging more people to embrace technology to help connect with nature and the outdoors.

Find out more and watch the film at johnmuiraward.org/recordbook

The Lost Words hits Edinburgh this summer

This summer visitors to the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE) can enjoy 'spell' poems and nature paintings from nature writer Robert Macfarlane and artist Jackie Morris. The pair's award-winning book *The Lost Words* has become a popular rallying-call for us all to stay connected with nature.

The Trust's John Muir Award Manager Rob Bushby said: "We are delighted to promote the sumptuous book that Robert and Jackie have created and align ourselves with the thinking behind it."

RBGE's Ian Edwards added: "The John Muir Trust's excellent online materials have been a great inspiration and support to our schools education team who will be running school activities at all four gardens during the summer."

The Lost Words exhibition runs from 19 May - 2 September at the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh. Admission is free.

For John Muir Trust information, resources and activities related to *The Lost Words* visit johnmuirtrust.org/thelostwords

Year of Young People 2018

As Scotland celebrates the talents and achievements of young people through a dedicated themed year, the Trust has been listening to their ideas, attitudes and ambitions, and exploring innovative ways of bringing a new generation closer to wild nature.

Over the past 21 years our John Muir Award has introduced hundreds of thousands of young people - as well as adults and families - to the great outdoors, encouraging them to get hands-on experience of nature and conservation. Our actions for 2018 include creating job opportunities for four young people on our properties thanks to the ALA Green Charitable Trust, (see below). We will also be hosting workshops to get a deeper understanding of the relationship between young people and wild places.

Find out more at johnmuirtrust.org/youngpeople

Four young land staff

Coinciding with Scotland's Year of Young People, the Trust has just recruited four young people to work on our properties. These practical land-based roles are part of a new and exciting funding initiative by the ALA Green Charitable Trust to help young people start their careers in conservation with us.

Two of the posts are two-year 'apprenticeships' at Nevis (Nathan Berrie) and Glenridding Common (Isaac Johnston) while the other two are 'sandwich year' positions at Schiehallion (Izzy Filor) and Strathaird on Skye (Finn Lane). These four young people will gain experience on the job and will be supported with a generous training budget to encourage the development of relevant skills.

Fundraising gems

It's been a busy year so far for our fantastic members and supporters who have been raising money for the John Muir Trust and our work in wild places in a variety of inspiring ways.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to our five incredible London Marathon runners - Casey, Jennifer, Tim, Jordan and Kirsty, (pictured here), who in April raised more than £4,000 for the Trust by completing the 26.2 mile race on the hottest race day on record!

Carol Budd ran the Tiree Half Marathon in May, managing to raise over £800 for us through



PHOTOGRAPH: KIRSTY GRAY

race sponsorship and a bake sale, and Cary O'Donnell walked 1,300 miles from Land's End to John O' Groats.

Over the summer, Oli Warlow will be attempting his 'Classic Rock By Bike' challenge, by completing all of the climbs in Ken Wilson's book *Classic Rock* and cycling between them all. And in July, Adrienn Hortobagyi will be taking part in the marathon-length Great Glencoe Challenge trek.

We are also very grateful to those of you who have so generously chosen to donate to us in lieu of wedding or birthday gifts this year.

We'd love to hear from you if you're planning a sponsored walk, run, cycle or have any other great fundraising ideas. Please email clare.pemberton@johnmuirtrust.org



PHOTOGRAPH: NTS

An unexpected journey

David Frew, Operations Manager from the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) Mar Lodge estate was the guest speaker at Trust's North East Scotland Local Members Group. Because of its geographical location, the estate is close to the heart of many Trust members in this part of Scotland – and the local group has held many successful two-day conservation work parties at Mar Lodge over the years.

David's theme was his 'Unexpected Journey' as he evolved from a quiet, computer-game playing school leaver with no interest in the outdoors, to his current key position in land management at the NTS's largest property, containing some of the wildest land and most iconic species in Britain.

Born on the east coast of Scotland, David as a young adult, headed west (to the Isle of Rum) where he gained his first taste of nature and the environment and has subsequently become deeply involved with conservation. Rum gave David valuable experience on a Natural Nature Reserve (NNR) and today he is heavily involved in the ten-year heritage plan for Scotland's newest NNR at Mar Lodge Estate.

With like-minded estate owners to the north of Mar Lodge, there are ambitious opportunities for land transformation and chances to create corridors of natural environments across those artificial estate boundaries.

There were numerous questions from the large audience about deer control, natural regeneration, reintroduction of species and rewilding – all of which he answered encouragingly and convincingly.

The Trust's recently appointed Engagement Officer, Helen Mason, attended the event with a good selection of literature and merchandise, and with the presence of past, present and nominated trustees, there was plenty of opportunity after the Q & A for more informal conversation before we headed home through a fine but chilly spring nightfall.

James Brownhill

Edinburgh Festival event: Living in Nature

Sandwood manager Don O'Driscoll is taking part in a panel discussion on 28 July at Edinburgh Printmakers. The free event will help launch Indian artist and campaigning conservationist Ravi Agarwal's first solo UK exhibition. Don helped Ravi research the pressures facing nature in Scotland and the challenges involved in working with communities to rewild damaged landscapes. Ravi's exhibition is on until 20 October 2018. **The 28 July panel discussion is free but ticketed. Find out more at johnmuirtrust.org/latest/events**

Tell us your news!

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

Email helen.mason@johnmuirtrust.org

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Managing editor: Nicky McClure
nicky.mcclure@johnmuirtrust.org

Editor: Alan McCombes
alan.mccombes@johnmuirtrust.org

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COVER BANNER IMAGE: RED-THROATED DIVER ADULT AND CHICK ON BREEDING LOCH, FLOW COUNTRY, BY MARK HAMLIN/SCOTLANDBIGPICTURE.COM

MEMBERS' GROUPS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Edinburgh

10 November, save the date for the Edinburgh Members' Gathering at the Augustine United Church in Edinburgh. Contact edinburgh@johnmuirtrust.org

North East Scotland

14-15 September, 25-26 September – assist with conservation tasks on the Mar Lodge Estate. Contact nescotland@johnmuirtrust.org

12 August and 27 October – assist with conservation tasks on the Balmoral Estate. Contact nescotland@johnmuirtrust.org
Monthly – regular dates at Glen Tanar: **21 July, 18 August, 15 September, 20 October, 17 November, 8 December**

England

20 September, Glenridding Common conservation work parties – **27-29 July** and **14-16 September**. Contact sandy.maxwell@johnmuirtrust.org

Hardknott Forest – regular volunteer days on second Sunday and fourth Tuesday of each month from September. Contact Hardknott project officer John Hodgson on J.H.Hodgson@leeds.ac.uk

17 November – save the date for the Southern Members' Gathering at the Broadmead Baptist Church in Bristol. Contact southernmembersgroup@johnmuirtrust.org

Wild moment: Hamish Brown

The author and long term Trust member makes a plea.

*Our mountains, our lochs, our streams
do not gather in committee rooms.
Each, individually, has its way
into a quiet harmony – but only
if we would have it so.
Be careful how we control,
how create, rule, or legislate,
so busy we fail to find
the quiet heart of the land
which must be valued, first
for itself, that fragile self
which we have so abused
with centuries of mistakes, with
destructive selfishness. Please,
let the landscape live.*

Share your own wild moment at johnmuirtrust.org/wild-moments

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- Sign up for our emails at johnmuirtrust.org/newsletter
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- Opt to receive your Journal and Members' News online by emailing membership@johnmuirtrust.org
- Email any changes to your contact details to membership@johnmuirtrust.org