

# tidelines

Issue 50 Spring/Summer 2019

newsletter of the Solway Firth Partnership



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# Chairman's Column

Alastair McNeill FCIWEM C.WEM MCMI



During the period there have been changes in Board and staff membership. Michael Cowen, from Maryport Harbour Authority, attended the recent SFP Board meeting as a new Corporate Member and a warm welcome is extended to Michael. Meanwhile, Emma Baruah, SMILE Project Officer, left her role in February. Emma began work on the SIMCelt project with SFP in February 2017 before taking up the SMILE Project Officer role last year. We thank Emma for her contributions to the projects in which she participated whilst with SFP and wish her all the best in her future career. SMILE (Solway Marine Information, Learning and Environment Project) will update the 1996 Solway Review and the project will continue until 2020. Georgina Reid has been appointed as SMILE Project Officer and started at the end of March. A welcome is extended to Georgina on joining the team.

The Marine Management Organisation's (MMO) Iteration 3 engagement workshop took place in Carlisle in late February. SFP co-chaired what was a well-attended event and Clair McFarlan, SFP Manager, facilitated at the workshop sessions. The workshop provided an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on preferred draft policies that have been developed as part of the North West marine planning process. Covering economic, social and environmental issues, information accrued during the workshop sessions will help inform further development of marine plan draft policies ahead of the statutory consultation process in late 2019.

I attended a British-Irish Council (BIC) marine litter symposium in February hosted by the Scottish Government. Attended by Environment Ministers from across Member Administrations, the symposium followed a two-day International Marine Conference that focused on current national and international actions to protect the marine environment. The marine conference was attended by SFP personnel and aimed to identify emerging threats to seas and consider new measures required to protect the marine

environment for future generations. Informed by the issues discussed at the conference, the BIC identified three different areas where they could collaborate further to ensure progress on marine litter. This included, establishing a system to facilitate the recycling of end of life fishing gear, co-operative working to further reduce the loss of pre-production plastics across the supply chain and, improving educational materials and modules on marine litter for young people and the fishing industry. Ministers also agreed to register these actions as a joint voluntary pledge in the UN Communities of Ocean Action registry of voluntary commitments for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14.

There is a current lack of recycling facilities for end of life fishing gear and fishing fleets have very limited options for gear disposal. Improving this situation would encourage better waste management. The BIC administrations committed to working together, with industry, to develop solutions for the collection and recycling of end of life fishing gear from its main fishing ports.

Pre-production plastic pellets are a source of micro plastic pollution which needs to be addressed. Support was expressed for the plastic industry's 'Operation Clean Sweep' which aims to reduce pellet loss, and the need to further reduce loss with a transparent and auditable full supply chain approach. Ministers encouraged more organisations to join this initiative. Administrations have committed to learn from the trial of a supply chain approach and apply the lessons learnt in their own territories.

The importance of education in schools to promote behavioural changes is key to tackling the problem of marine litter. A commitment was given to sharing and improving educational materials for young people and the provision of environmental modules during professional fisheries training to highlight the environmental, economic and social cost of marine litter.



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## Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty has a new website

The team here at the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty are really proud of our new website and we think you will like it too. Lots of new content describing what makes the Solway special, a new interactive map with all the things you can see, do and explore, a new clean design with easy navigation to find the information you need and easy access to all the news, events and social media posts from us and our partners.

You can find the new website at the same address [www.solwaycoastaonb.org.uk](http://www.solwaycoastaonb.org.uk)

While you are there don't forget to sign up to our mailing list to make sure you are kept up to date with our news, events and volunteering opportunities.

Don't forget we are also on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – search for Solway coast AONB or follow the links on the website.



Volunteers litter picking

## Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Volunteers

Here on the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty we are very fortunate to have the support of a small band of committed and hardworking volunteers. The volunteers contribute to our practical conservation and visitor access activities across the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty but currently we are working mainly on the land we directly manage between Maryport and Silloth.

The range of tasks undertaken by the volunteers are very varied, recent months have seen the volunteers; litter picking on Mawbray Banks and Grune Point, Hay Raking at Crosscanonby Carr Reserve, footpath and car park repairs across all of the sites, brush and gorse cutting at Mawbray – all important tasks that we simply wouldn't be able to do without the help of the volunteers.

We are keen to involve more people in our volunteer activity. With more volunteers we can achieve more but, as importantly, volunteering is a great way for you to visit and understand the special place we look after. We are now running volunteering sessions at a wider variety of times with weekend sessions and, during the summer, evening sessions too. Many of our volunteer tasks are suitable for families with children particularly the evening and weekend sessions so why not join us at an educational and productive activity on the Solway. Not all the things volunteers can help us with involve outdoor practical conservation tasks, for instance at the moment we are looking for help in categorising and labelling our extensive image library.

If you would like to join us as a volunteer visit our website [www.solwaycoastaonb.org.uk](http://www.solwaycoastaonb.org.uk) and join our mailing list, selecting volunteering as one of your interests and we will keep you in touch with all our volunteering opportunities. If you want more information email us at [info@solwaycoastaonb.org.uk](mailto:info@solwaycoastaonb.org.uk)





## Solway Coast AONB Management Plan

In 2000, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) created legislation for better protection of AONBs. This new Act consolidated the 1949 Act, reaffirming the purpose of designation and confirming the powers of local authorities to take appropriate action to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of AONBs. Section 89 creates a statutory responsibility for local authorities to prepare, publish and review a Management Plan for the AONB and we carry out this important piece of work on their behalf.

Our current Management Plan for the AONB expires in 2020, so we are starting the process of drawing up ideas and priorities for the next one, which will run from 2020 to 2025. Shortly we will be engaging with a wide range of people, including a consultation with all parishes bordering or within the AONB boundary. We will also be running a range of exercises to encourage people to tell us their priorities for the future conservation and enhancement of the Solway landscape. Watch this space!



Below:  
Sarah Mukherjee  
and farmers at  
Rogersceugh

## National Review of Designated Landscapes

Last year, on the back of the release of the UK Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, it was announced that the Government had commissioned an independent review of England's designated landscapes – all of the National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in the country.

70 years ago, in 1949, the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act was passed, providing the legislation for the designation of National Parks and AONBs. The Act, described at the time as a "recreational gift to Britain's returning Second World War service men and women", set out to recognise, conserve and enhance access to landscapes deemed to be "of national importance and quality". The Solway Coast AONB was designated in 1964 and is one of 34 other AONBs in England.

The review will also explore how access to these beloved landscapes can be improved, how those who live and work in them can be better supported, and their role in growing the rural economy.

Weakening or undermining their existing protections or geographic scope is not be part of the review, which will instead focus on how designated areas can boost wildlife, support the recovery of natural habitats and connect more people with nature.

The Review is currently underway, led by writer Julian Glover and supported by a panel of experts. A call for evidence was opened in October 2018 to allow everyone to have a chance to contribute their views on designated landscapes and the panel have spent several months collating and understanding how designated landscapes operate and the impact they have.

Already the review team has carried out visits and meetings in many parts of England and in March, the Solway Coast AONB hosted a visit from panel member Sarah

Mukherjee. We had a hugely positive and enjoyable day with Sarah, taking her to a range of sites including Port Carlisle, RSPB Campfield Marsh, Holme Cultram Abbey and Mawbray Banks where she met farmers, members of the local community and partner organisations.





Crosscanonby salt pans



## FOCUS ON – Crosscanonby Salt pans

The salt pans of the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty are a lasting monument to a bygone industrial age.

In Anglo-Saxon times, salt production was the country's third most important industry behind agriculture and fishing – and Cumbria, as it is known today, was one of only six areas in the country which tapped into its natural resource.

That led to a large-scale enterprise, with a virtually unbroken chain of salt pans stretching from the head of the Solway in the north, down to Millom, near Barrow in Furness, in the south.

The Solway Coast's salt industry was boosted by the Cistercian Monks of Holme Cultram Abbey in Abbeytown.

They began shaping the landscape around them as their agricultural empire grew. They created industry at Saltcotes – which means a cluster of buildings containing salt pans – and at Newton Marsh where circular pits still gather sea water and hold it until the next high tide.

But the best preserved examples of salt pans on the Solway Coast are at Crosscanonby – and they weren't created by Abbeytown's monks.

Originally it was thought that they were owned and run by the influential Senhouse family of Maryport. However, a land survey carried out in 1699 shows this is not the case. Two sets of salt pans, the first, entitled 'Netherhall Pans', were shown on the survey a mile south of Crosscanonby. The second set of pans was located just north of the village on the coast and were entitled 'Mr Lamplugh's Salt Pans'. It is now thought that it was the Netherhall Pans that were owned by the Senhouses and not those at Crosscanonby.

The earliest reference to Crosscanonby Salt Pans comes in 1634 when they were let to a Richard Barwis on a 21-year lease. The Pans passed to the Lamplugh family from



# An Update from the Solway Coast AONB

Ribton in 1662, first to Thomas Lamplugh and then to his son, Richard, in 1670.

From then on they were the source of some disquiet within the Lamplugh family, with two half brothers, Richard and Robert (sons of Richard senior), disputing their ownership in 1710. Robert, who appears to have been quite wealthy, was eventually awarded the lease by the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral.

Yet a map of Cumberland dated 1783 does not show the Netherhall Pans, which suggests they were, by this time, long abandoned.

What is now the B5300 coast road was constructed in 1824. This split the site into two halves and by 1845 it featured only the cottages and the kinch - the circular pit visible today.

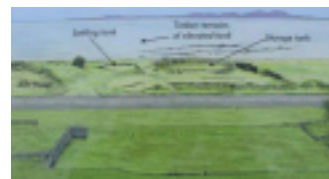
The 20th century has seen significant changes to the salt pans. Between 1918 and the 1930s, holiday cottages and a caravan site

grew around the area. The caravan park prospered until it was abandoned in the 1970s due to coastal erosion.

The significance of the Saltpans was rediscovered in the mid-1980s. Then, in the latter part of 1997 and early 1998, the AONB carried out major works to protect the Crossscanonby site from the threat of coastal erosion.

Rock filled gabions were built around the badly-eroded site and back-filled with more than 2,000 tonnes of material from the nearby Crossscanonby Carr nature reserve project – the defences have proved their worth, though often requiring repairs after the large storms of recent years.

The site remains intact, although under constant threat from the tides, a lasting monument to an industry long departed from Solway life.



## Did you know...?

Salt was needed to preserve foods like meat and fish – and it was vital for the farming and fishing communities on the West Cumbrian coast.



Labelled features at Crossscanonby



Milefortlet 21



Aerial view of Crossscanonby



## Visiting the Salt Pans

The Salt Pans are adjacent to the B5300 just north of Maryport Golf Course. Visit by bike using the Maryport to Allonby Cycle Trail. Either park at the Crossscanonby Carr Nature Reserve, taking care when crossing the road, or in the shore side car park to the north of the salt pans and follow the path above the beach.

Having viewed the salt pans there is plenty more to see and explore at Crossscanonby; the Roman Milefortlet 21 site on the hill above the salt pans is well worth a visit offering an insight into the Roman defences along this section of coast, but also a great view down to the salt pans from above, and then enjoy a stroll, and maybe a picnic, at the Crossscanonby Carr Nature Reserve.







Braid Fell bomb wall, above Loch Ryan

# Launch of a New Local Attraction The Solway Military Trail

A group of local enthusiasts from military heritage visitor attractions around the Solway have come together to develop a new Solway Military Trail.

Aerial View of RAF Sillioth



There is a rich history of a military presence in and around south Scotland and north Cumbria particularly around the Solway coast. The quiet, rural surroundings coupled with access from ports such as Stranraer, Cairnryan and Sillioth made the Solway coast a perfect location for munitions factories in both world wars, RAF airfields, flying boat bases, practice bombing ranges and secret testing sites.

A number of the staffed visitor attractions developed around the military heritage of the area and while each centre draws an audience it was felt by all the organisations involved that by collaborating and providing a self-guided trail of attractions along the Solway a wider audience could be attracted. It is also anticipated that military heritage sites not previously well known about will now be available to the public. Some of these may not be fully accessible but their stories can be shared through the website and in the publication to help inform the public of this forgotten heritage.

So why not visit the website now and find out some of the hidden stories of the Solway – [www.solwaymilitarytrail.co.uk](http://www.solwaymilitarytrail.co.uk)





Dumfries and Galloway  
Aviation Museum

## For a flavour of what to expect – Did you know?

Silloth airfield was an important base during WW2 to train bomber crews before they joined Bomber Command and the air offensive against Germany. Silloth was chosen as an aerodrome site, probably because of its remoteness from the main active regions down south. On 5 June 1939 it was opened as No 22 Maintenance Unit.

In fact so many accidents occurred over the Solway Firth that the area near here became known as "Hudson Bay". An Air/Sea Rescue Unit was stationed in Silloth Docks and was made good use of during that period. The dangerous shifting sand of the Solway made it difficult for rescue and many aircraft and crew were buried there forever.

On the Scottish side of the Solway, in 1942 the tiny fishing village of Cairnryan was transformed into what became known as Military Port No. 2. Should Glasgow or Liverpool have been destroyed in enemy air raids then Cairnryan, along with Faslane, were to become emergency deep-water ports. Parts of the Mulberry Harbour, used in 1944 in the Normandy landings, were tested here.

The staffed visitor attractions that you can visit and find out more about the Solway Military Trail include:-

### Dumfries and Galloway Aviation Museum

A great place for people of all ages to learn about history and aviation. It occupies the airfield control tower of RAF Dumfries which became operational during WW2 and includes a Battle of Britain Spitfire.

### Solway Aviation Museum

Home to a collection of aircraft, aviation artefacts and displays reflecting Britain's position as a world leader in aircraft design and innovation at the dawn of the jet age. There is a Cold War Vulcan bomber preserved here.

### John Paul Jones Birthplace Museum

A museum featuring the original cottage on the Solway Coast where John Paul Jones, hero of the American Revolutionary War and founder of the US Navy was born in 1747.

### The Devil's Porridge Museum

The museum tells the amazing story of how Gretna and Eastriggs were built in WW1 to house many of the 30,000 women and men who built HM Factory Gretna and produced more cordite propellant than all the other UK factories put together.

### Solway Coast AONB Discovery Centre

A visitor information centre with exhibitions about the history of Silloth Airfield.

The Solway Military Trail Project Partnership Group which has been led by Dumfries and Galloway Aviation Museum also includes Solway Aviation Museum; Carlisle's Museum of Military Life; The Devil's Porridge Museum; Solway Coast AONB Discovery Centre; the John Paul Jones Birthplace Museum Trust; Allerdale Borough Council; Solway Firth Partnership; and Dumfries and Galloway Council.

The Solway Military Trail Project has been kindly supported by Allerdale Borough Council and Foundation Scotland.





Peat core showing the historic layers of peat



*Sphagnum pulchrum*



# Solway Mosses gets a New Manager

An Interview with Emma Austin, the new Senior Nature Reserve Manager for the South Solway Mosses



## What are the key aspects of your job?

It's very important that I meet and work with all the farmers and landowners to get to know the best ways we can achieve the best restoration for the site and manage it in a good way so as to not impact on neighbouring farmland. The best outcome is where everyone benefits from the fact that the peatland is working naturally again.

## Now that the restoration works at this part of Wedholme Flow are complete, is it 'job done' and just a matter of watching the peat bog vegetation grow back again?

Unlike an active raised peatbog dome, the milled area of Wedholme Flow is like a gouged out landscape. In just a few years' time, I expect you will see a transformation in that a living carpet of vegetation will replace what was a brown bare site. But it is complicated because you can't just walk away from it and let it grow. We will still need the engineered water

control channels for some time into the future, to regulate the levels of water as the vegetation establishes, and peat begins to accumulate in the long term. At the moment the water level is maintained to keep water just at the peat surface only, and not to flood the new 'living carpet' of mosses that we have introduced. In the future, the bigger and deeper the peat body, the more rain water it can hold before it runs off. Once we start growing peat again, we are on the road towards a more natural peatland that is not only storing carbon in the peat, but also smoothing out peaks in water flow after heavy rainfall. So it's going to need a bit of care to make sure the money and effort of the restoration work gets the best chance to work.

## What do you think is the value of peatbogs for people?

Well, people value the moss for different reasons. They remember growing up around them, playing on the cuttings, catching adders, working here. People's reasons for valuing places can vary – none's right and none's wrong. But I think





*Sphagnum cuspidatum*

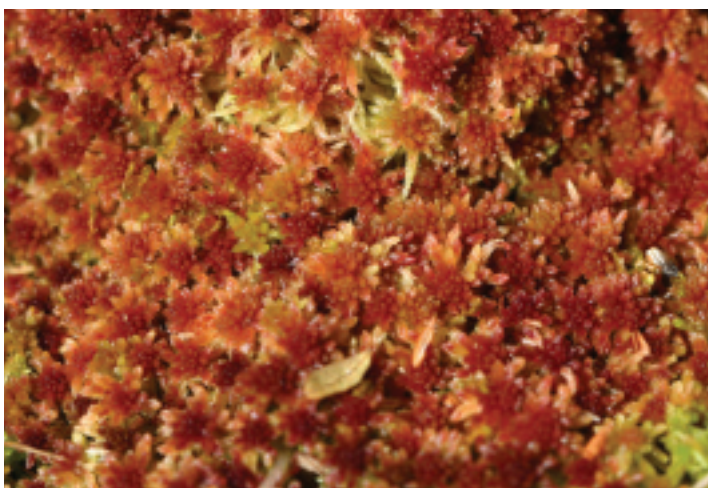
what is special about this area is that it is a very unique landscape, with all these designations. And now we know how important these peatlands are in storing carbon and that by restoring them, they will capture more carbon and accumulate peat. It's one of the government's priority habitats for restoration and the species which thrive here are so rare and interesting. Hopefully these values sit alongside individual people's values.

#### What do you like about the peatbog landscape?

I think they are such a surprise when you first come across them, so wide and open. You can drive around on the Solway plain which is so flat, and not realise that on the other side of a screen of birch trees is often this vast expanse of wild landscape that is in total contrast to the surrounding land. I've brought people who have never been on this type of landscape before and nearly every time everyone is like, "Oh my word, I just never knew that this existed."

The sphagnum colours on good intact moss are fantastic. Such a range colours. It doesn't matter if you know the name of the species or not. Anyone - from a young child to whatever age – can appreciate the colour as well as the fascinating tiny details of the sphagnum mosses if you were to look at them under a magnifying glass. I also love what the peat represents, that you are digging back down through hundreds and hundreds of years of history.

*Sphagnum capillifolium*



Volunteers at Hadrian's Wall

## Hadrian's Wall Community Archaeology Project (WallCAP)

September 2018 saw the announcement of an award of £1.7 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Hadrian's Wall Community Archaeology Project (WallCAP).



The project, based at Newcastle University, is scheduled to run for three years from autumn/winter 2018 to 2021. The project focuses on improving the heritage of Hadrian's Wall, part of the UNESCO Transnational Frontiers of the Roman Empire (FRE) World Heritage Site (WHS).

There are two strands to the project. One is to identify, survey and, where appropriate, provide intervention at key locations along the Wall deemed 'At Risk', and the second is to try to understand and map where all the stones have gone from the Wall.

Currently, the project is just starting, including staff and volunteer recruitment, but we will conduct fieldwork across 26 sites in the World Heritage Site. Public involvement is essential to the success of the project and it will be developed and delivered in consultation with project volunteers and communities along the Wall to ensure that activities are appropriate, well supported and understood. WallCAP also seeks to promote a long-term legacy to the conservation of the WHS by building a framework to support volunteers and community groups and help to build and reinforce stronger links to heritage sites/attractions and relevant organisations.

Further details are available on our website <https://wallcap.ncl.ac.uk/>, including registering your interest as a volunteer.







ONUS volunteers

# SFP runs a SCRAPbook Beach Clean Trial

Aerial photography has been used to inspire a trial organised by Solway Firth Partnership to help us understand the constraints and opportunities for tackling marine litter issues in difficult to reach locations.

**T**his trial used information collected by the SCRAPbook Project, where volunteer pilots from the charity Skywatch take aerial photos of the coastline to provide baseline data and identify litter hot spots. SCRAPbook has identified the extent of marine litter along the region's coast and highlighted the problem of litter sinks in remote locations.

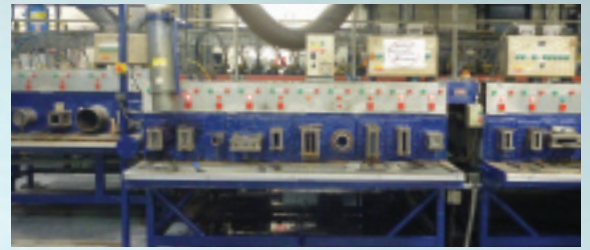
The natural, visual and economic impact of marine litter on 'bathing' beaches are well known. However, not many are aware of the effect that marine debris has on our rugged shores, perhaps because they are less easy to access. These rocky areas have the disadvantage of accumulating and

trapping marine litter due to the very nature of their structure. Waterborne debris is gathered by the Irish Sea and is windblown to form litter sinks on remote coastal slopes and in bays and inlets.

The trial mobilised community action to explore the obstacles that need to be overcome and test practical solutions for the removal and reuse of plastics on our shores.

Solway Firth Partnership met up with volunteers from the ONUS beach cleaning group to find the best way to target a 'litter sink' in a gully north of Port Logan. An initial plan to remove plastic debris from this remote bay by boat was prevented by strong winds and it became clear that





RPC bpi recycling

coordinating tides, volunteers and unpredictable weather was always going to be a challenge. The volunteers agreed to walk out to Clanghie Bay and to drag the litter back across rough terrain to a skip which Port Logan Fish Pond had allowed to be placed in their car park. After a morning of hard work filling the skip with plastic, the volunteers retired to the village hall for well-earned refreshments.

After three more visits to the gully, and assistance from the local farmer who provided a trailer at the top of the steep coastal slope, two more skips were filled. The perseverance shown by the volunteers has made a big difference to a small area of shore.

Two skips were filled with plastics and the third one was used for materials that are harder to recycle such as tyres, fishing nets and rope. The plastic was taken to Dumfries to be sorted and assessed to find out how much of it is suitable for recycling. RPC bpi recycled products were able to use most of the material in the manufacture of their Plaswood product, a material that is 100% recycled plastic.

The beach clean trial established that the majority of large items on our beaches are plastics many of which can be

recycled. Items collected ranged from drinks bottles to large barrels and even included a plastic rocking horse! The clean up only tackled one small gully and there are many more locations along Dumfries and Galloway's coast where marine litter needs to be removed. On future clean ups, where removal of debris by boat is not an option, it is hoped that land owners and tenant farmers might help transport the plastic from the coast to the nearest access for skip lorries.

The plastic in marine litter is degraded and may be contaminated which makes recycling difficult, however this trial has demonstrated that with careful sorting some of the plastics can be reused. Solway Firth Partnership is actively searching for other solutions and will also work in partnership with Dumfries and Galloway Council to process marine litter through regional waste transfer sites.

The trial was managed by Solway Firth Partnership and was a collaboration between ONUS beach cleaning group, Dumfries and Galloway Council, RPC bpi recycled products and Armstrong Waste Management Ltd. Solway Firth Partnership appreciates the assistance from all the partners involved.





# Words & places

## understanding coastal place names

The ebb and flow of people who lived on the Dumfries and Galloway coast can be seen in the place names we use to describe landmarks. The spoken word changes over time as it is re-told and reinterpreted but place names were standardised through the publication of Ordnance Survey maps in the 1850s.

The place names recorded by Ordnance Survey surveyors are a 'snap shot' written down long after Gaelic was spoken in the area. The place names we see on modern maps were spoken by people who had lost the original language of the place and recorded by surveyors who were unfamiliar with Scots words. Mistakes and misinterpretation were common at a time when place names were often a Scots phonological adaptation of earlier words or a translation of the original meaning. Through this process the derivation of place names has been blurred and sometimes new meanings created.

The complexity of how the sea meets with the land means there is a great

diversity in the vocabulary used to identify places shown on maps. The following glossary explains some of the general descriptive words for landform and also the more evocative words that help identify specific places.

### **Allan – a rock in the sea**

In coastal context the place-name Allan is used to describe a rock in the sea and is probably derived from the Gaelic eilean meaning island (see Isle). Examples include Allandoo (Black Isle), Allaneasy (Isle of Jesus) and Port Allan (Isle Port).

### **Big – size relative to location**

Big Rock is one of those place names that lurk in the oral tradition and is considered a colloquial or 'unofficial' name because it does not appear on an Ordnance Survey map although 'Big Crag' is marked on a map of the River Nith dated 1845. Big Rock is not very large but it is all a matter of scale and it certainly looks big in the context of the tidal mudflats that stretch into the distance. Big Isle and Big Scar are other examples.

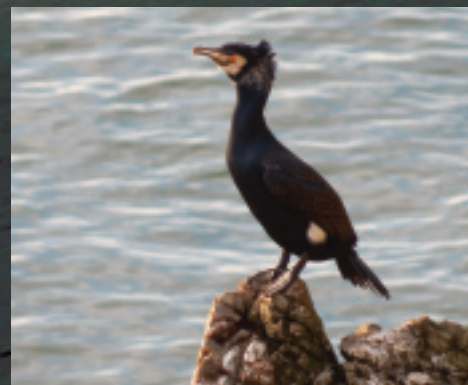
### **Carrick – a rock or rocky promontory**

Derived from the Gaelic carraig there is a concentration of carrick place names on the rocky shores of the South Rhins including Carrickcarlin (Old Woman's Rock), Carrickmurlan (High Tide Rock) and Carrickgill (White Rock).

### **Ducker – a cormorant**

The cormorant is a striking bird often seen with its wings outstretched to dry its feathers on a favourite rock. Ducker is a variant of the Scots word dooker meaning diver. In the Rhins ducker is replaced by scart and is probably derived from skarfr which is Old Norse for cormorant.

Cormorant







## **Ebb – state of tide**

Many ships have come to grief on the Ebbstone (or Laggan) Rocks - a sunken reef off the north western Rhins which are only exposed on the low (ebb) tide. Most names containing ebb are rocks that aid navigation for sailors who need to know the state of the tide in the ever changing waters of the Solway.

## **Firth – an estuary**

Firth describes a wide inlet of the sea and is derived from the Old Norse fird meaning fjord and is found in the names Solway Firth and Rough Firth.

## **Garvellan – rough textured island**

An island in Fleet Bay, the name is derived from the Gaelic Garbh eilean meaning rough island. The English translation is used for another Rough Island at Kippford.

## **Heugh – cliff or steep slope**

An alternative to heuch, a Scots word used to describe a cliff or steep bank over hanging the sea. The word is usually linked to the nearest settlement for example Heughs of Barholm but sometimes describes an exposed cliff face at Scar Heugh and Broken Heugh.

## **Isle - a rock in the sea**

Isle is a word commonly applied to rocks or groups of rocks as well as to islands in the usual sense. There are many examples including Red Isle, Isle of Partan (crab) and Marion's Isle.

## **King's – person's name**

King's Loop is a strip of land near Port William that has no association with royalty but refers to a previous tenant. There are many other examples, Pagan's Nose on the shores of the Nith estuary is a promontory where Mr Pagan once had fishing rights.

## **Loup – cliff or gap**

Legendary leap by someone off a rock including Scabby's Loup, Laird's Loup and Matty's Loup. In one instance a story of a millstone accidentally dropped over a cliff led to the name Millstone Loup.

## **Mull – promontory**

At the southern-most point of Scotland the name Mull of Galloway is derived from the Gaelic maol, usually used to describe a rounded summit that is bare of trees and is commonly applied to windswept promontories.

Mull of Galloway





# An Update from Solway Coastwise

## Museums in Annan and Dumfries Coastwise Exhibition – Where every name tells a story

This exhibition reveals the history and stories behind the origins of coastal place names between Redkirk and Southernness. For more information see Dates for your Diary.

### Neb – point

Many small promontories are named because they locate fishing seats for anglers with Sonsy Neb, near Clanyard Bay being considered a lucky place to catch fish. Sonsy is Scots for lucky or fortunate and Neb describes a beak of a bird or any sharp point.

### Pow – water course

A Scots word describing a slow moving stream. Sometimes used to describe an inlet used as a landing place for small vessels such as at Powfoot.

### Rig – a ridge

A Scots word describing a ridge of higher land, it appears on the shore in Whinnyrig (Gorsey Ridge) and on tidal flats with Gowkesk Rig (perhaps describing a sand bank separating a channel which may be mistaken as the River Esk).

### Slunk – a small inlet

Slouch, Slock and Slunk are words derived from the Gaelic sloc meaning pit or cavity and used to describe a gully scooped out by the hand of nature. Bandler Slunk, Grave Slunk and Mary Wilson's Slunk are place names that tell the stories of maritime accidents on the wild rocky shores of the Rhins.



Chapel Wells



Thirl Stane

### Thirl – a hole

Thirl is a Scots word for cutting a stone, and in the place name Thirl Stane it is used to describe a natural aperture through a rocky ridge near Southernness.

### Well – healing pool or spring

In medieval times pilgrims travelled to Chapel Wells, near St Medan's Co', Mull of Galloway. The wells are in fact three circular rock pools of different sizes filled by the sea at high tide. A dip in these healing wells could apparently cure almost any ailment. Other healing wells include St Madana's Well, a spring once called Chincough (whooping cough) Well at Monreith and the Brow Well at Ruthwell.



Benbuie

### Yellow – colour

This colour appears in place names as buie, a corruption of the Gaelic buidhe, and is sometimes shortened to wee. Yellow Isle, Benbuie (Yellow Hill) and Ringwee (Yellow Promontory) all refer to places where yellow or orange lichens grow on rocks.

Gowkesk Rig







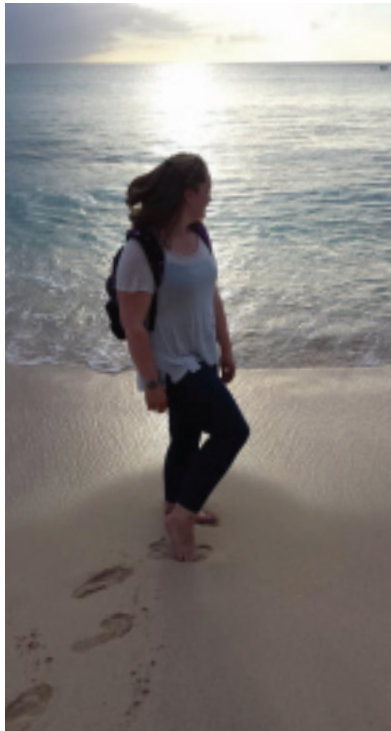
Folkestone Marine Park, Barbados



Newfoundland, Canada



Sea Ice, Cape Spear, Newfoundland, Canada



Georgina in Barbados



Trinity, Newfoundland, Canada



An island off the coast of Bell Island, Newfoundland, Canada



# Georgina Starts with a SMILE

From the end of March, a new staff member will be joining the team at the Solway Firth Partnership. Taking on the role of SMILE project officer will be Georgina Reid. With family from New Abbey, Georgina has a strong connection to the Solway as well as Dumfries and Galloway. Having experienced the marine environments in vastly different climates over recent years, studying in icy Newfoundland, Canada, and interning in sunny Barbados, she is thrilled to be taking on this challenging role with the important aim of updating the 1996 'State of the Solway Review'.

This review on the unique Solway Firth is sorely in need of updating given the change of demands on the Solway ecosystem and biodiversity, socio-economic aspects and policy changes which the firth has undergone in the 23 years since its publication. With the original review aiming to characterise the baseline information pertinent to the Solway

to improve information accessibility, this aim has evolved with the SMILE project which seeks to update the review, while promoting better understanding of the Solway and learning from Solway stakeholders.

Georgina is eager to continue Emma's excellent work in identifying what local residents on both sides of the Solway consider to be their 'Vision for the Solway', and will be attending events to gain your thoughts and opinions on the Solway.

- **What sector is most important to you in the Solway Firth?**
- **What three words would you use for your vision for the Solway?**

Alternatively, please feel free to contact our new Project Officer at any time: [smile@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk](mailto:smile@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk)





Nith estuary mudflats



Scar Point, Caerlaverock

# The electronic eyes looking down to the Solway Firth

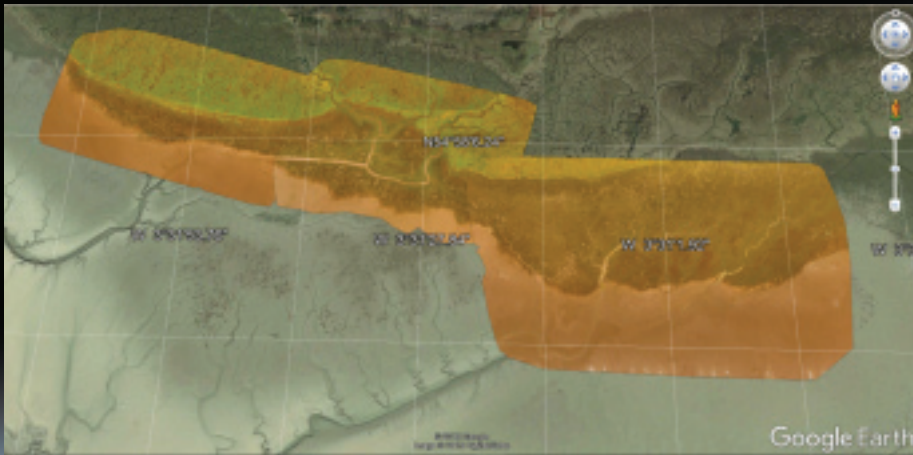
What is the link between satellites whizzing at 800 km above our heads and the Solway Firth? The fact that these satellites have electronic eyes that are very interested in the Solway Firth marshes.

Asking a satellite to observe the Solway Firth should not come as a surprise, considering salt marshes and coastal grassland areas are very precious treasures that we must preserve! It is undeniable that marshes are ecologically and economically valuable ecosystems. They support a wide range of biodiversity including a rich invertebrate community and important wading birds and wildfowl. They also play an important role in carbon sequestration, act as nursery grounds for economically important fish and reduce the impact of storms on coastal defences. And let's not forget that mud flats and marshes are wonderful quiet oases where we can get in touch with nature and ourselves.

Unfortunately, salt marshes are very fragile ecosystems and they are under threat around the world. It may not come as a surprise that the main cause of change and degradation of marshes are related to humans, from pollution, agriculture and buildings to issues related to climate changes (e.g. the increase in storm frequency and strength). The only way to make sure marshes are properly protected is by carrying out periodic surveys. Although marshes are spectacular ecosystems, surveying them is very time demanding due to the uneven terrain (presence of creeks, ponds and mud). I understand that this may be a biased perspective coming from somebody that has lost his welly boots in mud innumerate times! But it is undeniable that looking at the marsh from above allows a much better view of features like creeks and the marshes edge.

At the University of Stirling, together with my team, we are investigating the potential of satellites and drones to improve





Marshes near Caerlaverock castle. Drone data (yellowish image) overlaid over Google Earth map  
– Alan Law and Armando Marino, The University of Stirling



Sentinel-1 satellite – European Space Agency

the management and protection of salt marshes worldwide. Our most loved and best monitored test site is the Solway Firth salt marsh, due to its valuable ecological role and the significant erosion that it is suffering. A strong motivation to use satellite images is that we enter a new era of freely available satellite data (e.g. the ESA Sentinel constellation missions). Anybody could register at the ESA Copernicus website <https://scihub.copernicus.eu/> and download satellite images for free.

We believe that a combination of sporadic field surveys, drone and satellite data could be the key to understanding the erosion processes and we can then try to act upon this. Among other things, we want to understand if the grasses are suffering stress by changes in environmental conditions,

which may lead to a faster erosion process.

In our latest drone campaign (September 2018) we collected high resolution images and compared these with some historical images found on Google Earth. These acquisitions were collected near the beautiful Caerlaverock castle. If you play “spot the difference” with the two images, you will notice how large chunks of marsh have eroded since 2009. Our next drone campaign will be in spring and summer 2019 where we want to monitor the effects of winter storms on erosion.

If you would like to know more about the project, please don't hesitate to contact Dr Armando Marino at the University of Stirling, Biological and Environmental Sciences, Stirling - [armando.marino@stir.ac.uk](mailto:armando.marino@stir.ac.uk).

The Flooders, Caerlaverock



Dr. Armando Marino losing his welly boot... again







North Western Protector

# Fisheries Science

at North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NWIFCA)



Dr Hartley in the wet lab

2018 was an important year for NWIFCA, as we took delivery of our long-awaited new patrol and science vessel, the North Western Protector.

To celebrate science at NWIFCA we would like to take this opportunity to introduce the vessel to the Solway Firth Partnership, and how it will contribute to fisheries management in the Solway Firth. Look out for her when you are out and about on the Solway.

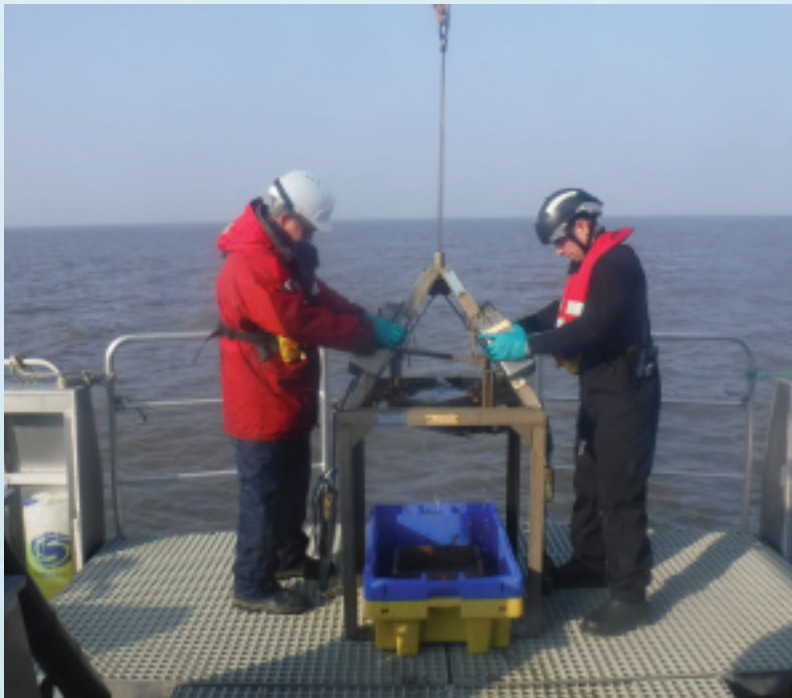
## The North Western Protector

The North Western Protector was officially named in July 2018 by the Duke of Gloucester at Whitehaven Marina. She is an ex-windfarm maintenance vessel that has been completely re-furbished to meet the requirements of the enforcement and science teams. At 20.47 metre overall length, the twin hulled catamaran is constructed from aluminium, and has a cruising speed of 23 knots.

The NWIFCA's capacity for science and survey will be massively increased with the acquisition of NW Protector which has been kitted out with wet and dry labs, on-board electronics for remote survey using side-scan sonar, and underwater photographic and video survey. Along with the vessel's integrated Olex ground-discrimination equipment, these will provide NWIFCA scientists with data on subtidal habitats, which inform fisheries management decisions taken by the Authority.

NW Protector can also be used for subtidal sampling using scientific grabs, trawls and dredges. Having six berths and on-board labs will allow time at sea to be extended meaning more data collection. The potential to develop the work for investigating new fisheries and new methods of fishing is exciting.





Grab deployment by boat crew



Measuring mussels

## Science in the Solway

The Solway Firth presents a number of challenges to fisheries management in the current legislative environment. Much of the valuable bivalve fisheries are subtidal, or in areas that only emerge on the big spring tides and are not accessible from land. All fisheries in the Solway fall within the Solway Firth European Marine Site, and before any fishing can take place a full Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) must be carried out to assess risk to protected features.

To perform these assessments we need data! So, since receiving the new vessel last year the Science team have been busy learning techniques, testing equipment and working with the vessel crew to get surveys on the NW Protector underway and collecting that much needed data.

One of our first priorities is the Sillloth subtidal mussel beds, which we were able to begin surveying in earnest at the end

of February. Science Officers and the crew of the boat successfully deployed and processed over 70 grab samples and performed a ground discrimination survey, to inform on the distribution of subtidal habitats and the extent of the mussel bed. This is the first step in the assessment of this area, with further side-scan survey work to follow in the near future.

Due to the hull structure of the NW Protector she can be used to 'dry out' on sandbanks that only uncover on large tides, such as in the middle of the Solway Firth, when quad bikes carried on-board can be craned over for use during cockle surveys.

More information on our work managing sustainable fisheries in the Solway and across the NWIFCA district, including all HRAs, is available on our website [www.nw-ifca.gov.uk](http://www.nw-ifca.gov.uk)

*Dr Melanie Hartley*

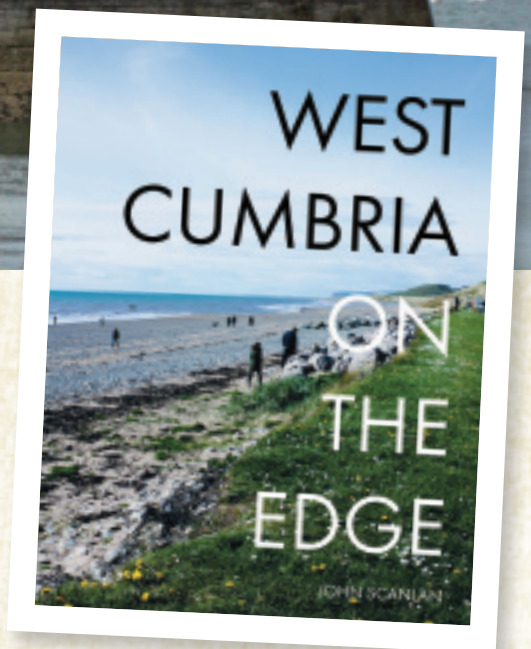
Sillloth in the mist at dusk







# West Cumbria: On the Edge by John Scanlon



**T**he region of West Cumbria, in contrast to its association with being 'on the edge', is the centre piece for this new book which delves into the interesting but frequently overlooked history of Cumbria.

John does a remarkable job in capturing the essence of this region and makes the reader feel that they have visited the places he discusses. He paints vivid pictures throughout this work on the history of Cumbria as he takes you on a journey through 'cultural and economic history, geography, architecture and the built environment, as well as literary and artistic representations.' The rise of an industrial hotspot with an influx of residents, to the iron mining in and around Cleator Moor, and the 1970s and 1980s when Raymond Moore photographed West Cumbria, are to name but a few stops along the way.

Delving into West Cumbria's connection with the Solway and with legends of the sea, shoreline ghosts, shipwrecks and buildings of old Skinburness being devoured by the Firth, used as vibrant reminders of the coast's power to impact and shape the land. Particularly enjoyable was the author's discussion of Cammell Laird Works in Workington and the Solway coastline.

This book definitely gives the reader an appreciation for the varied struggles and booms seen by this area of England, and drives you to explore its towns and coast with a newfound vigour and fresh eyes on the present-day West Cumbria.

John Scanlon is writer and researcher who works in cultural history and aesthetics. He is currently a research fellow with In Certain Places at the University of Central Lancashire.

Published by In Certain Places, Preston, March 2019.



# Dates for your Diary

May - September 2019

## MAY

Sat 6 April – Sun 2 June

**Roman invaders in the Solway?**  
(Dumfries Museum)  
**Mon – Sat, 10.00am to 5.00pm**  
**Sundays 2.00pm to 5.00pm**  
**Booking: Not Essential**

The story of the Priestside anchor and the ships that carried Roman invaders to our shores 2000 years ago.

Contact: Dumfries Museum,  
01387 253374

Meet: Dumfries Museum, The Observatory,  
Rotchell Road, Dumfries, DG2 7SW

Cost: Free

Throughout May  
until Sat 15 June

**'Support in Mind' Exhibition**  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
**10.00am to 5.00pm**  
**Booking: Not Essential**

Exhibition of a variety of artwork created by talented members of the fantastic charity Support in Mind.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Entry to the exhibition is free, Normal  
admission charges to the reserve

Daily Throughout May

**Warbler Trail**  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
**10.00am to 5.00pm**  
**Booking: Not Essential**

Discover the different warblers that visit  
Caerlaverock in summer, and find out  
where they have come from!

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

Wed 1 May

**Sea Watch**  
(Maryport)  
**9:30am to 11:30am**  
**Booking: Essential**

In partnership with Sea Watch  
Foundation, help survey for porpoises and  
seals, and learn about what can be found  
in Cumbria's seas. Bring binoculars if you  
have them and suitable clothing. Short  
easy walk to the viewing site.

Contact: Cumbria Wildlife  
Trust, events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk,  
01539 816300

Meet: Park on the promenade and meet  
at the entrance to the Senhouse Roman  
museum, Maryport Promenade, The  
Battery, Maryport, Cumbria, CA15 6JD

Cost: Free

Thu 2, 9 & Wed 15 May

**Conservation day**  
(Drumburgh Moss Nature Reserve)  
**10.00am to 3.30pm**  
**Booking: Essential**

Drumburgh Moss is important raised mire,  
part of the South Solway Special Area of  
Conservation. Join Cumbria Wildlife Trust  
to help construct a boardwalk to create a  
new route of access on this National  
Nature Reserve. Dress appropriately and  
bring your own refreshments and packed  
lunch.

Contact: CWT 01539 816300 or  
events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk

Meet: At the car park up from Moss  
Cottage. NY255591

Cost: Free

Thu 2 May

**Spring Discovery Walk**  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
**11.00am to 1.00pm**  
**Booking: Essential**

Discover some of the amazing wildlife  
looked after on this farm. As the season  
changes, so too do the habitats and  
special creatures found here - from  
emerging insects to chicks hatching,  
the first flowers and departing geese.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
mersehead@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3),  
Children half price. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

Sat 4 May – Sat 15 June

**Haaf Net History**  
(Annan Museum)  
**11am – 4pm**  
**Booking: Not Essential**

Unique to the inner Solway, haaf netting  
has been practised in Annan for over a  
thousand years. With links to the Vikings  
and Kings, Riding of the Marches and the  
fish cross – this interactive display  
documents for the first time the cultural  
and historical significance of haaf net  
fishing.

Contact: Annan Museum, 01461 201384  
or annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk

Meet: Annan Museum, Bank Street, Annan,  
DG12 6AA

Cost: Free

Sat 4, 12 May

**Natterjack Night**  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
**8.30pm to 10.30pm**  
**Booking: Essential**

At dusk if we are lucky, we may hear the  
amazing, croaking chorus of rare  
natterjack toads. Male toads visit shallow  
pools to sing to females and encourage  
them to spawn. Come along to see this  
take place. Please bring a torch and  
wellies. Please note numbers are  
restricted to 20 max.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
mersehead@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £10 (RSPB members £8),  
Children £4 (RSPB members £3). Car  
parking charges apply for non-members

Sun 5 May

**In Focus**  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
**10.00am to 4.00pm**  
**Booking: Not Essential**

Try before you buy the latest binoculars  
and telescopes from the huge range  
available today. In Focus experts on hand  
all day to give advice. WWT Caerlaverock  
benefits from every sale.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Free

Mon 6 May

**Spring Birdsong**  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
**8.00am to 10.00am**  
**Booking: Essential**

Take an early morning wander on the  
reserve to listen out for bird song, as  
newly arrived birds sing for their territory  
and to attract a mate. Learn the difference  
between willow warblers and black caps,  
chaffinches and dunnocks!

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

Tue 7 May

**Bird Song Symphony**  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
**9.00am to 11.00am**  
**Booking: Essential**

Learning your bird songs can be quite  
challenging. This morning's walk will  
introduce you to some of the birds at  
Mersehead and their calls, with a chance  
of seeing the singers as they display  
along our hedgerows (weather  
permitting).

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
mersehead@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3),  
Children half price. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

Fri 10 May

**Stories in the Yurt**  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
**10.00am to 11.00am**  
**Booking: Essential**

Sit in the cosy yurt and listen to a nature  
related story told by one of WWT's  
engaging storytellers. Then take a short  
walk around the reserve to look for some  
wildlife. Suitable for children aged 4 and  
under. All children must be accompanied  
by an adult.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT  
members free

Whilst every effort is made to check the accuracy of the information given, Solway Firth Partnership cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or wrong information contained here and strongly recommends that you confirm details/arrangements/charges beforehand.





## Sat 11 May to end June

**Giant LEGO Brick Trail  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Take on the Lego Brick Wetland Animal Trail, all the way around the WWT Caerlaverock reserve! We will welcome some new characters as well as seeing old favourites such as Chris the Crane and Mac the Mallard!

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT members free

## Sat 11, Sun 12, Tue 28, Wed 29, Thu 30 May

**LEGO Brick Workshops  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
11.00am and 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

This is a must for all young Lego Brick model enthusiasts! Take part in the Lego Brick yellow duck challenge and follow the instructions to build your own mini Short Eared Owl to take home!

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £8 per person

## Thu 16, 30 May

**Spring Discovery Walk  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in Thu 2 May event.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3), Children half price. Car parking charges apply for non-members

## Sat 18 May

**High Tide Perambulation  
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)  
11.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

High tide Guided walk a leisurely walk and look at the two lagoons and the saltmarsh to see what wildlife we can see. Boots or wellies and bring the binoculars if you have them.

Contact: 01988 402130 or [Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AF, NX445530

Cost: £4 Members, £5 Non-members

## Thu 16 May

**Pond and Play MAYhem  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 3.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Get busy in the 'Badgers Corner' on the swings or slide, scurry through the tunnel or be creative in the sandpit and mud kitchen! See what's on the reserve and take part in various self-lead and guided activities, including sand creature building, pond-dipping, bug hunting and mud pie making. If staying for the day, please bring along a picnic.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: FREE but donations welcome, to help us look after the reserve and nature. Small charge for some activities. Car parking charges apply for non-members.

## Wed 29 May

**Sea Bird Walk to St Bees Head  
(St Bees)  
6.30pm to 8.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

A conducted walk with Cumbria Wildlife Trust West Coast Local Group to St Bees Head to see the nesting seabird colony of guillemots and razorbills. If lucky you might see puffins and a peregrine falcon. Kittiwakes, herring gulls and fulmars are also readily seen.

Contact: West Coast Local Group - Rosemary Hutt, 01946 728737

Meet: Sandwith Main Street, CA28 9UJ at the road junction for the lane towards St Bee's cliffs, NX964147

Cost: FREE but donations welcome

## Thu 30 May

**St Bees Beach Clean  
(St Bees)  
2.00pm to 3.30pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Join the Colourful Coast team on this litter pick on St Bees beach. You will be provided with all the equipment you'll need (litter pickers, bin bags, gloves, sometimes even biscuits!). Boots or wellies are recommended. Please dress according to the weather (raincoat, suncream, sunhat).

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015 or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: St Bees, main beach car park, behind the lifeboat station, NX961117

Cost: Free

# JUNE

## Daily Throughout June

**Bugs Trail  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

June is a great time to see a variety of bugs on the reserve. Find out about some of the more common bugs you might find here.

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT members free

## Sun 2 June

**Wildlife Photography Workshop  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
9.30am to 4.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Bring along your camera and learn how to take fantastic macro photographs of the variety of insects, minibeasts and wild flowers on this wonderful wetland reserve.

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £75 (includes admission)

## Mon 3 June

**Sea Watch  
(St Bees Beach)  
11.00am to 1.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: Cumbria Wildlife Trust, [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk), 01539 816300

Meet: St Bees Beach, St Bees Beach, St Bees, Cumbria, CA27 0EY, NX961117

Cost: Free

## Fri 7 June

**Stories in the Yurt  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 11.00am  
Booking: Essential**

See details from May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT members free

## Sat 8 June

**World Oceans Day  
(Port William)  
12 noon to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Discover seaside wildlife, explore the coast, find out about place names and have fun learning about the marine environment.

Contact: 01387 702363 or [coastwise@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk](mailto:coastwise@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk)

Meet: Port William Lifeboat Station, Harbour Rd, Wigtown, Newton Stewart DG8 9SF

Cost: Free

## Sat 8 June

**'A Sense of Place': writing about the Solway Saltmarshes  
(RSPB Campfield Marsh)  
10.00am to 4.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

A workshop for practising and aspiring writers, led by novelist, creative-writing tutor and shore-walker Ann Lingard. The day will include a slow ramble on the saltmarsh and an indoor session. Further details about this event can be found at the Solway Shorewalker blog.

Contact: Cumbria Wildlife Trust, 01539 816300, [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Campfield Solway Wetlands Centre

Cost: Suggested donation, £5

## Tue 11, 25 June

**Conservation day  
(Drumburgh Moss Nature Reserve)  
10.00am to 3.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: CWT 01539 816300 or [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk)

Meet: At the car park up from Moss Cottage. NY255591

Cost: Free

## Wed 12 June

**Birkhams Quarry work and walk  
(Whitehaven)  
10.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Join the Colourful Coast team for a chance to get behind the scenes at this working quarry and help with wildflower restoration. Boots or wellies are recommended. Please dress according to the weather (raincoat, suncream, sunhat).

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015 or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: Meet in Whitehaven at the top of the slipway near the parking machines on North Shore, behind Tesco.

Cost: Free

## Wed 12 June

**A Nature Walk around Maryport harbour (Maryport)  
6.30pm to 8.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

A conducted walk around Maryport harbour to see both the flora, including the orchids, and seabirds.

Contact: Organised by the West Coast Local Support Group, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Rosemary Hutt, 01946 728737

Meet: Maryport Wave Centre, Irish Street, Maryport, Cumbria, CA15 8AD

Cost: Free

## Thu 13, 27 June

**Summer Discovery Walk  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Discover some of the amazing wildlife looked after on this farm. As the season changes, so too do the habitats and special creatures found here - from birdsong to buzzing insects and flowers turning to seed.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3), Children half price. Car parking charges apply for non-members

## Sat 15 June

**High Tide Perambulation  
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)  
10.00am to 12.00noon  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01988 402130 or [Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AF, NX445530

Cost: £4 Members, £5 Non-members



## From Sun 16 June until Sat 27 July

**'Marsh Song' by Anne Butler  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Exhibition of artwork by local artist, Anne Butler. Exploring the mystery, mood and secrets of the marsh, Anne will be working to capture something of the wild open spaces on canvas.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Entry to the exhibition is free.  
Normal admission charges to the reserve.

## Sat 22 June – Sun 8 Sep

**Coastwise – Where every  
name tells a story  
(Annan Museum)  
11.00am – 4.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

This exhibition reveals the history and stories behind the origins of coastal place-names by exploring the language used to describe features between Redkirk Point and Southerness. Hands on family activities will accompany this exhibition. This exhibition was created by the Solway Firth Partnership. Find out more at [www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk/community/solway-coastwise](http://www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk/community/solway-coastwise).

Contact: Annan Museum, 01461 201384  
or [annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk)

Meet: Annan Museum, Bank Street,  
Annan, DG12 6AA

Price: Free

## Sat 22 June – Sun 8 Sep

**Plastic Waste Art Installation  
(Annan Museum)  
11.00am – 4.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

The For Enjoyment community were commissioned by the Dumfries and Galloway Eco Warriors to produce an installation piece to highlight the effects of plastic pollution on the Dumfries and Galloway coastline. The resulting art work invites debate about the human impact on our natural world and at the same time highlight the importance of the work of the Eco Warriors in attempting to clean up our precious beaches.

Contact: Annan Museum, 01461 201384  
or [annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk)

Meet: Annan Museum, Bank Street,  
Annan, DG12 6AA

Price: Free

## Tue 25 June

**Mersehead Beach Clean  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
9.30am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

We need your help to clean up our shores! Plastic pollution is drastic for our marine life and seabirds. We are removing the washed up waste on our 3.2 mile shoreline, and welcome you to join our Tuesday Volunteers on this clean up. Please bring your own GLOVES, waterproofs, sturdy footwear and a packed lunch (if staying for the day). Meet at the farm car park (along road from the visitor centre).

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Free - There are no car parking  
charges for taking part on this event.

## Thu 27 June

**Whitehaven Beach Clean  
(Whitehaven)  
10.30am to 12.00noon  
Booking: Not Essential**

Join the Colourful Coast team on this litter pick on Whitehaven beach. You will be provided with all the equipment you'll need (litter pickers, bin bags, gloves, sometimes even biscuits!). Boots or wellies are recommended. Please dress according to the weather (raincoat, sunscreen, sunhat).

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015  
or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: Meet in Whitehaven at the top of the  
slipway near the parking machines on North  
Shore, behind Tesco.

Cost: Free

## Daily Sat 29 June to Tue 3 Sep

**Wetland Explorers  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Explore the wetlands at Caerlaverock, and take on a range of different wildlife challenges. How many pond creatures can you catch and identify? How good are you at bird spotting, tracking animals and finding creatures such as butterflies, dragonflies and bees? Collect a sticker for each challenge you complete!

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Sat 29 & Sun 30 June

**LEGO Brick Workshops  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
11.00am and 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: £8 per person

# JULY

## Wed 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 July

**Pond Dipping  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Discover the range of exciting creatures living in our ponds. Use nets to catch the bugs, then use our identification guides to find out what they are.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Fri 5 July

**High Tide Perambulation  
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)  
1.00pm to 3.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01988 402130 or  
Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve,  
Wigtown, DG8 9AF, NX445530

Cost: £4 Members, £5 Non-members

## Sun 7 July

**In Focus  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 4.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Free

## Sun 7 July

**Sea Watch  
3.00pm to 5.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: Cumbria Wildlife  
Trust, [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk),  
01539 816300

Meet: Park on the promenade and meet at  
the entrance to the Senhouse Roman  
museum, Maryport Promenade, The  
Battery, Maryport, Cumbria, CA15 6JD

Cost: Free

## Wed 10 July

**Conservation day  
(Drumburgh Moss Nature Reserve)  
10.00am to 3.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: CWT 01539 816300 or  
[events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk)

Meet: At the car park up from Moss  
Cottage. NY255591

Cost: Free

## Thu 11, 25 July

**Summer Discovery Walk  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Discover some of the amazing wildlife looked after on this farm. As the season changes, so too do the habitats and special creatures found here - from birdsong to buzzing insects and flowers turning to seed.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3),  
Children half price. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

## Thu 11 July

**Stories of the Sea  
(Annan Museum)  
11.00am to 3.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Listen to stories of the sea and pirates  
and take part in bringing them to life.

Contact: Annan Museum, 01461 201384  
or [annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk)

Meet: Annan Museum, Bank Street,  
Annan, DG12 6AA

Price: Free

## Fri 12 July

**Stories in the Yurt  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 11.00am  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Fri 12, 26 July

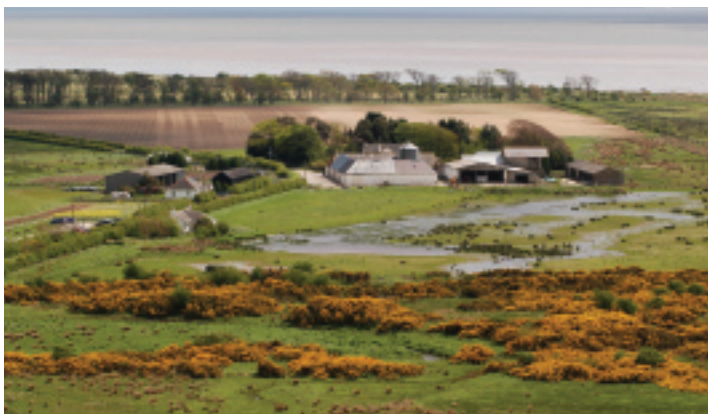
**Badger Banquet  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
10.00pm to 11.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

Feast your eyes on badgers, as they snuffle around for a snack in our garden. These creatures are living on the reserve and often leave tracks and signs along our trails but close views can be a challenge. Watch them from the comfort of our Sulwath Centre, with hot drinks also available for the evening. Please note numbers are restricted to 12 max.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £12 (RSPB members £10),  
Children half price





## Tue 16 July

### **Wildlife Art Morning (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**11.00am to 1.00pm**  
**Booking: Essential**

Discover the wonderful wildlife of Caerlaverock and then use your creativity to create fantastic artwork using natural items you have found out on the reserve. Family event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Sun 21 July

### **Summer Foraging with Mark Williams, Galloway Wild Foods (Kirkcudbright)**

**10.00am to 4.00pm**  
**Booking: Essential**

In a spectacular coastal area near Kirkcudbright, SW Scotland, you will explore summer hedgerow plants, coastal succulent plants and maritime herbs, fungi and seaweeds.

Contact: Glasgow Region Outdoor and  
Woodland Learning (GROWL), details  
available via Eventbrite  
(<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk>)

Meet: Kirkcudbright

Cost: £60 per person, £45 for GROWL  
members (Not suitable for children, no  
dogs)

## Tue 23 July

### **Mini Mammal Morning (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**10.00am to 11.00am**  
**Booking: Essential**

Find out what mammals we have caught overnight in our small mammal traps and learn more about mammals such as voles and mice that live on our wetland reserve!

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT  
members free

## Wed 24 July

### **Birkhams Quarry work and walk (Whitehaven)**

**10.00am to 1.00pm**  
**Booking: Essential**

See details in June's event.

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015  
or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: Meet in Whitehaven at the top of the  
slipway near the parking machines on North  
Shore, behind Tesco.

Cost: Free

## Wed 24, 31 July

### **Under the Surface - Pond Dipping (RSPB Mersehead)**

**11.00am to 1.00pm & 2.00pm to  
4.00pm**

**Booking: Not Essential**

Get dippy with a net and see what you can find lurking in the water! Meet our guide to show you what minibeasts live in the ponds here at the wetland. Then have a go at finding some. Discover why these tiny creatures are so important to the reserve and all its wildlife. Nets and trays and guides provided.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £3 (RSPB members £2),  
Children half price. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

## Thu 25 July

### **St Bees Beach Clean (St Bees)**

**10.30pm to 12.00noon**

**Booking: Not Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015  
or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: St Bees, main beach car park, behind  
the lifeboat station, NX961117

Cost: Free

## Sun 28 July to Sat 14 Sep

### **Exhibition by Catherine Coulson (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**10.00am to 5.00pm**

**Booking: Not Essential**

Exhibition of artwork by local artist,  
Catherine Coulson.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Entry to the exhibition is free, Normal  
admission charges to the reserve

## Tue 30 July

### **Treasure Hunt (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**11.00am to 1.00pm**

**Booking: Essential**

Explore the reserve using maps and clues hidden out and about, to find the hidden treasure!

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT  
members free

# AUGUST

## Thu 1 to Sat 31 Aug

### **Sand Creature Competition!**

**(RSPB Mersehead)**

**During Opening Hours**

**Booking: Not Essential**

Can you build a super sand castle or be a creature creator and build a super cool sand creature!? Enter our competition for the best built and most exciting creature made this month (from start to end of August). All photographic entries must be received no later than Monday 2 September. The overall winner will get a special prize. Details on how to enter will be given when you visit the reserve. So come along and get building! Please bring your own bucket and spade.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: £2 per entry. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

## Thu 1 Aug

### **How big is a whale?**

**(Annan Museum)**

**11.00am to 3.00pm**

**Booking: Not Essential**

Stand inside our life size outline of a whale, learn interesting facts about their lives and imagine how these giants of the deep glide through the sea. Make tiny models of whales to take home.

Contact: Annan Museum, 01461 201384  
or [annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:annan.museum@dumgal.gov.uk)

Meet: Annan Museum, Bank Street, Annan,  
DG12 6AA

Price: Free

## Sat 3 & Sun 18 Aug

### **Playtime in the Garden (RSPB Mersehead)**

**11.00am to 3.00pm**

**Booking: Not Essential**

With the playground swings, badger sett, sand pit and mud kitchen only a few steps away from mini-beast hunts and pond dipping, our garden is a great place for your kids to explore and discover. We will have some activities for you all to take part in and enjoy a day of play. Please bring a picnic, if staying for the day.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: FREE but small charge (£1/£2) for  
each special activity. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

## Sat 3 Aug

### **High Tide Perambulation (RSPB Crook of Baldoon)**

**1.00pm to 3.00pm**

**Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01988 402130 or  
[Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve,  
Wigtown, DG8 9AF, NX445530

Cost: £4 Members, £5 Non-members

## Tue 6 Aug

### **Damselfly and Dragons (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**11.00am to 1.00pm**

**Booking: Essential**

Wander out into the wildflower meadow to discover the differences between dragonflies and damselflies. Family event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
[info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Wed 7, 14, 21, 28 Aug

### **Pond Dipping (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**10.00am to 5.00pm**

**Booking: Not Essential**

Discover the range of exciting creatures living in our ponds. Use nets to catch the bugs, then use our identification guides to find out what they are.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
[info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Thu 8, 22 Aug

### **Summer Discovery Walk (RSPB Mersehead)**

**11.00am to 1.00pm**

**Booking: Essential**

See details in July's event.

Contact: 01387 780579 or  
[mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead,  
DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3),  
Children half price. Car parking charges  
apply for non-members

## Fri 9 Aug

### **Stories in the Yurt (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**10.00am to 11.00am**

**Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
[info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free

## Sat 10 & Sun 11 Aug

### **Wetland Safari Weekend (WWT Caerlaverock)**

**10.00am to 5.00pm**

**Booking: Not Essential**

Discover the Caerlaverock wetlands in summer and learn about the special plants and animals which call our wetlands home. There will be talks on ospreys and natterjack toads, guided walks, wildlife workshops and lots of family activities.

Contact: 01387 770200 or  
[info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre,  
Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS,  
NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges,  
WWT members free





## Sat 10 Aug

**Beached Art  
(St Bees Beach)  
11:00am to 5:00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Join Cumbria Wildlife Trust for their annual family fun day on the wonderful St Bees beach. Remember to bring your wellies and spades! Sand sculpture competition 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Judging takes place 4.00pm to 4.30pm. Booking is advised for sand sculpture plot.

Contact: Cumbria Wildlife Trust, [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk), 01539 816300

Meet: Park in the car park (north), St Bees Beach, St Bees Beach, St Bees, Cumbria, CA27 0EY, NX961117

Cost: Sand Sculpture plot £3.00; Face painting £2.00. All other activities are free - donations welcome

## Tue 13 Aug

**Conservation day  
(Drumburgh Moss Nature Reserve)  
10.00am to 3.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: CWT 01539 816300 or [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk)

Meet: At the car park up from Moss Cottage. NY255591

Cost: Free

## Wed 14 Aug

**Under the Surface - Pond Dipping  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 1.00pm  
& 2.00pm to 4.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Get dippy with a net and see what you can find lurking in the water! Meet our guide to show you what minibeasts live in the ponds here at the wetland. Then have a go at finding some. Nets and trays and guides provided.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £3 (RSPB members £2), Children half price. Car parking charges apply for non-members

## Sat 17, 24 Aug

**On the Night Watch  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
9.30pm to 11.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

Some things do go bump in the night! But they may also screech, flutter or snuffle around too. Join us for a nocturnal celebration of Mersehead's night life. We'll go on a short walk with special night vision cameras and bat detectors, as well as checking for moths in our trap. We're in for a wild night indeed! Please note numbers are restricted to 10 max.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £12 (RSPB members £8), Children half price. No car parking charge.

## Sun 18 Aug

**Sea Watch  
(St Bees Beach)  
1.00pm to 3.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: Cumbria Wildlife Trust, [events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk), 01539 816300

Meet: In the main car park (north) St Bees Beach, St Bees, Cumbria, CA27 0EY, NX961117

Cost: Free, donations welcome

## Tue 27 Aug

**Mersehead Beach Clean  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
9.30am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Free - There are no car parking charges for taking part on this event.

## Thu 29 Aug

**Whitehaven Beach Clean  
(Whitehaven)  
2.00pm to 3.30pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in June's event.

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015 or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: Meet in Whitehaven at the top of the slipway near the parking machines on North Shore, behind Tesco.

Cost: Free

## Fri 30 Aug

**Badger Banquet  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
10.00pm to 11.30pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in July's event.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £12 (RSPB members £10), Children half price

# SEPTEMBER

## Sun 1 Sep

**High Tide Perambulation  
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)  
1.00pm to 3.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01988 402130 or [Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Tarling@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AF, NX445530

Cost: £4 Members, £5 Non-members

## Sun 1 Sep

**In Focus  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 4.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Free

## Wed 4 Sep

**Birkhams Quarry work and walk  
(Whitehaven)  
10.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

See details in June's event.

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015 or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: Meet in Whitehaven at the top of the slipway near the parking machines on North Shore, behind Tesco.

Cost: Free

## Thu 5, 19 Sep

**Autumn Discovery Walk  
(RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 1.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Discover some of the amazing wildlife looked after on this farm. As the season changes, so too do the habitats and special creatures found here - from lush greens to gold, reds and browns and nature's harvest to first arrivals from the Arctic.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Adults £4 (RSPB members £3), Children half price. Car parking charges apply for non-members

## Fri 6 Sep

**Stories in the Yurt  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 11.00am  
Booking: Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Normal admission charges, WWT members free

## Sun 15 Sep

**Heritage Open Days Fog Signal  
Station walk  
(St Bees)  
10.30am to 4.00pm  
Booking: Essential**

Join the Colourful Coast team as they once again take part in Heritage Open Days and open up the St Bees Head Fog Signal Station for a select few people. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – and it's all free.

Contact: Project Officer on 07342088015 or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: Contact the Project Officer for more information and booking

Cost: Free

## Sun 15 Sep to Sat 26 Oct

**Exhibition by Annie Peel  
(WWT Caerlaverock)  
10.00am to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

Exhibition of artwork by local artist, Annie Peel.

Contact: 01387 770200 or [info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk)

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Entry to the exhibition is free, Normal admission charges to the reserve

## Sat 21 Sep – Sat 23 Nov

**Coastwise – where every name tells a story (Dumfries Museum)  
Sep: Mon – Sat, 10.00am to 5.00pm  
Sun 2.00pm to 5.00pm  
Oct/Nov: Tues – Sat, 10.00am to 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in June's event, Annan.

Contact: Dumfries Museum, 01387 253374

Meet: Dumfries Museum, The Observatory, Rotchell Road, Dumfries, DG2 7SW

Cost: Free

## Sat 21 Sep – Sat 23 Nov

**Plastic waste art installation  
(Dumfries Museum)  
Sep: Mon – Sat, 10.00am to 5.00pm  
Sunday 2.00pm to 5.00pm  
Oct/Nov: Tues – Sat, 10.00am to 1.00pm & 2.00pm to 5.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in June's event, Annan.

Contact: Dumfries Museum, 01387 253374

Meet: Dumfries Museum, The Observatory, Rotchell Road, Dumfries, DG2 7SW

Cost: Free

## Sun 22 Sep

**Great British Beach Clean at  
Mersehead (RSPB Mersehead)  
11.00am to 3.00pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

The Great British Beach Clean is the biggest beach clean and survey in the UK. Come and take part at Mersehead to help tidy up the nature reserve's coastline. The national event is coordinated by the Marine Conservation Society. Please bring your own gloves and a packed lunch, if staying for the day. Meet at the Visitor Centre. There are no car parking charges for taking part on this event.

Contact: 01387 780579 or [mersehead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mersehead@rspb.org.uk)

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: Free - There are no car parking charges for taking part on this event.

## Thu 26 Sep

**St Bees Beach Clean  
(St Bees)  
2.00pm to 3.30pm  
Booking: Not Essential**

See details in May's event.

Contact: Project Officer on 07342 088015 or email [colourful.coast@gmail.com](mailto:colourful.coast@gmail.com)

Meet: St Bees, main beach car park, behind the lifeboat station, NX961117

Cost: Free





For further information, to submit an article or to join the SFP mailing list please contact:  
Solway Firth Partnership, Campbell House, The Crichton, Bankend Road, Dumfries, DG1 4UQ  
t: 01387 702161 e: [info@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk](mailto:info@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk) [www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk](http://www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk)  
To subscribe to the Solway Firth Partnership Newsletter please visit: [www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk](http://www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk)

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