

Lothian Talk

Scottish Wildlife Trust Lothians Group Newsletter

<http://swtlothians.org.uk>

Chairman's notes

I am pleased to report that at the Lothian Group AGM on the 26th April one new member was elected to the main committee and no less than five to the sub-committee.

Alan Templeton is already our planning representative for Edinburgh and a member of our Red Moss reserve committee and he will therefore be well placed to contribute to the work of the main committee.

Unfortunately the two new members elected at the 2017 AGM to the sub-committee both moved away from Edinburgh during the year for work reasons so we were pleased to elect on to the sub-committee, Kate Walters, Joe Doake, Allan Mathieson, Matt Hodson and Nick Warren. They were in fact co-opted during the year and have therefore already contributed significantly to the work of the committee.

The full AGM minutes are available on the Lothian Group website.

The next Lothian Talk will hopefully feature some news to share from the exciting 'Shoreline Project'. This ambitious new RBGE-led project aims to regenerate the natural habitats along the 27km Edinburgh coastline from Port Edgar to Joppa.

Ken Knowles



Walk at Astley Ainslie

This was such a popular event that three groups were required - led by Jo Doake, Richard Doake and Joan Adam for the Astley Ainslie walk on Sunday 29th April.

Such a delightful way to spend two hours on a pleasant day, which for once was minus a cold wind. The grounds are so extensive that the groups did not overlap.

Although Astley Ainslie is known to many, we were taken into parts that are not seen from the main roads. There were many interesting finds such as the pet cemetery and carvings from the remains of the St Roque Chapel.

Throughout the grounds are the ancient majestic specimens of trees and it was a surprise to come across a small spruce wood tucked away where the jackdaws come home to roost.

All this was accompanied by bird song and signs at last of spring, such as the ferns beginning to unfurl and wild and cultivated flowers. It is easy to see how twelve gardeners and labourers were employed on this site post second world war. A truly lovely green space in the heart of Edinburgh.

The lovely coal tit photograph featured on this page was taken on the walk by Richard Wellis.

Sarah Baggaley

Planning matters

Planning matters has now moved online!

The full piece for this period can be found at: swtlothians.org.uk/category/swt-planning-matters/

For all planning issues, please write to the relevant contact below:

- Midlothian and East Lothian: Susan Manson - mansons@castlesteads.net, or at Castlesteads, Dalkeith, EH22 2NJ.
- West Lothian: Dr Cameron Easton - dr.c.easton@gmail.com or at 1 Bellsburn Avenue, Linlithgow, West Lothian, EH49 7LD.
- Edinburgh: Alan Templeton - alan.templeton@hotmail.co.uk
- Lothians Group Planning Secretary: Tim Duffy - Flat 4F2, 34 Warrender Park Terrace, Edinburgh, EH9 1ED, Tel/Ans 0131 2288785.



Events for your diary

Full details for all of these events can be found at swtlothians.org.uk/events/
as well as in the SWT Events Booklet

Cycle round some Lothian Reserves

- Sat 21st July: 10am - 4pm
- Start at entrance to Bawsinch Reserve

Red Moss of Balerno Open Day

- Sun 22nd July: 12pm - 5pm
- Red Moss of Balerno Reserve

Water of Leith Walk

- Sun 30th Sept: 11am - 12pm
- Start at Water of Leith Visitor Centre

Aberlady Goose Walk

- Sat 13th Oct: 3:30pm - 6:30pm
- Aberlady Nature Reserve car park

Talk: Honeybees and the Environment

- Thur 18th Oct: 7:30pm - 9pm
- Guide HQ. 33 Melville Street. EH3 7JF

Musselburgh winter Bird-watching

- Sat 10th Nov: 12pm - 2:30pm
- Aberlady Nature Reserve car park

Talk: WildGenes

- Thur 15th Nov: 7:30pm - 9pm
- Guide HQ. 33 Melville Street. EH3 7JF

Guided Walks at Bawsinch

- 15th Jul. 12th Aug. 9th Sept. 14th Oct.
 - Sundays: 2pm - 4pm
- Meet at Bawsinch hide

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