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# networkbulletin

SPRING 2021

FOR TCV SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY NETWORK



**In this issue: protecting Scotland's badgers.**

PHOTO: A BANTICK



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# Welcome



**Welcome to the latest issue of the Network Bulletin from The Conservation Volunteers in Scotland. Here, Debbie Adams, Director for Scotland and Northern Ireland, considers what has been a very challenging time for us all.**

What a year it has been. Given this tough year, I am incredibly proud of the achievements of TCV staff and volunteers in Scotland. We had to suspend volunteering twice this year after never doing this in our 60-year history. Over the year, many of our staff offered virtual ways for people to engage including Facebook and Instagram live activities, online training, virtual sessions with our volunteer groups and online activities for children during the school holidays. This was a large departure from our usual delivery model and took a lot of effort to get it all going, but it has definitely been worth it judging by the overwhelmingly positive feedback we have received. We have also been able to engage people and groups who would find it hard to attend our in-person training and events. We know this will never

replace delivering in green spaces with people, but we are reviewing the place virtual connections can have alongside our in-person delivery. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

Whenever possible we have continued to deliver volunteering; for improved health and wellbeing, to support individual's employability prospects, to connect with communities – while at the same time making vital improvements for people to access greenspaces

and help the environment and nature. These have always been important outcomes of our work but given the context we are now in, they are even more needed. Since lockdown was announced in March 2020, we have managed to engage thousands of people in our work and improve hundreds of greenspaces. We are grateful to the continued and flexible support from our funders and partners in helping make this possible. We are grateful to our staff and volunteers who have developed and followed very robust Covid-secure ways of working – even the communal tea-kit has been a casualty!

I am also conscious that many of you will be helping Scotland's communities and greenspaces to recover, both through TCV and in other roles. Thank you for all that you are doing. This commitment is so important just now and I hope that you are proud of the contribution you have made.

For the coming year, we are hopeful that benefits of connections with greenspaces remain high in people's priorities. The climate challenges have not gone away and coupled with the effects of a global pandemic we all have a vital role to play in the coming months and years. We look forward to working with all of you to play our part.

**Debbie Adams**

Director, TCV Scotland and Northern Ireland

# Small forests, big idea



*The Tiny Forest site in Easterhouse. The layer of straw acts as a mulch to retain moisture in the soil and also to suppress weeds which may compete with the trees for nutrients.*

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL

**Recently, a Tiny Forest in Glasgow and a mini urban forest in London have both used the innovative Miyawaki Method, first developed in Japan, to encourage fast tree growth, particularly in urban areas.**

## A Scottish first

Scotland's first 'Tiny Forest' was planted in March 2021 at Avenue End, in Easterhouse, Glasgow, as part of a project to create hundreds of Tiny Forests across the UK. The Tiny Forests initiative is led by Earthwatch Europe who have worked with Glasgow City Council and the Seven Lochs Project\* to create the Easterhouse forest, which will be looked after by volunteers from TCV and local schoolchildren.





*Scott Ferguson, Seven Lochs Project Coordinator, with Councillor Maureen Burke, Chair of the Seven Lochs Partnership.*

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL

The Tiny Forest initiative aims to create densely packed native forests no bigger than a tennis court in underused urban spaces. The Avenue End Tiny Forest of 600 native trees is next to 3 primary schools and 2 schools providing additional support needs, and will be used by pupils for a range of outdoor learning activities.

As well as connecting schools and communities with nature, members of the public – citizen scientists – will collect scientific data to assess the benefits of Tiny Forests in urban spaces. And young people will help gather data on: carbon absorption, flood mitigation, thermal comfort and biodiversity, as well as assess the social and wellbeing benefits.

The Seven Lochs Tiny Forest is funded by the OVO Foundation and the Scottish Government's Vacant and Derelict Land Fund. The OVO Foundation's £1m Climate Changers Programme will see 12 Tiny Forests established in some of the most deprived areas of the UK.

Earthwatch Europe hope to plant over 150 Tiny Forests by 2023 and are looking for suitable landowners and partners to get involved. [Find out more](#)

Also in the Seven Lochs area, the Northern Corridor Community Volunteers are developing a tree planting scheme using different planting techniques, including the Miyawaki Method. We'll feature the NCCV's scheme in a future Bulletin.

\*The Seven Lochs Project is an ambitious partnership initiative (including TCV) to create a new heritage and nature park that spans the Glasgow City/North Lanarkshire council boundary between Easterhouse, Coatbridge and Stepps. Supported by a £4.5million grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project aims to improve place for people and nature, and help more people learn about nature on their doorstep.

[Find out more](#)



*Local volunteers planting at Parsloes Park, London.* PARSLOES PARK RANGER TEAM

# Introducing ‘Miyawaki’

The Seven Lochs Tiny Forest is the first of its kind in Scotland. At Parsloes Park In East London, TCV has been involved in developing a mini urban forest which also uses the Miyawaki tree planting method, but what exactly is the Miyawaki Method?

This tree planting technique was pioneered by Japanese botanist **Dr Akira Miyawaki**. The process helps build dense, native forests and the approach is designed to encourage tree growth that is up to 10 times faster, resulting in a plantation 30 times denser than usual.

The Miyawaki Method is regarded as one of the most effective tree planting methods for creating forest cover at speed, on land that has been used for other purposes, such as agriculture or construction. So, it is perfect for urban landscapes, parkland and with potential for brownfield sites. Good news for communities and local wildlife!

It is believed that its effectiveness is down to it being based on natural reforestation principles, using native trees whilst replicating natural forest regeneration processes. As you can imagine, the flora and fauna close to the project is adapted to live and thrive with the vegetation they have evolved alongside for millennia, so what's native is best for local wildlife in this instance.

To put this all into perspective, the Miyawaki Method would plant about 200 trees in an area you might now traditionally plant about 50 trees. The area becomes maintenance-free after the first three years, providing a chemical and man-made fertiliser free forest that nurtures itself once established.

Following the Parsloes Park scheme, TCV hopes to develop more mini urban forests using the Miyawaki Method.

**Find out more in a recent TCV blog**



*Audrey with fellow volunteers at the Dale Hub Community Garden, Armadale.*

NIALL TRAYNOR

# Volunteer Q&A

Why people volunteer with TCV is a question we regularly ask. Here, the answers are provided by **Audrey** who has been volunteering on and off during the Covid pandemic with the West Lothian Community Gardening Initiative. Audrey talked to Will George, Senior Project Officer, who organises TCV's input to the scheme.

## Why do you choose to volunteer?

To get out and meet other people and try something different.

## What have you enjoyed the most?

I can honestly say I have enjoyed everything, but I most enjoyed opening-up the pathways in wooded areas to allow more people to access them, and to see the difference cutting away branches can achieve that.

## What have been your favourite projects and why?

Making raised beds from scaffolding boards for school children to plant them up, allowing them to get outdoors and experience new things.

## What new skills have you learnt whilst volunteering with TCV?

I've gained certificates in First Aid, Manual Handling and Brushcutter Operating. Also, I've learned to use various tools such as the mitre saw, belt sander, wood planer and angle grinder.

## Has volunteering improved your fitness levels?

Yes definitely!

## Have you learned anything about nature and the environment?

Yes. I learnt about different varieties of mushrooms, trees and plants, and how they affect the environment.

West Lothian Community Gardening Initiative is an employability programme involving Community Action Blackburn and TCV. The aim is to increase participants' knowledge and skills whilst improving local green spaces. So far, we have worked across 12 sites in West Lothian. The primary funders are LEADER and West Lothian Council, with further support from NatureScot and the Scottish Government.

### **How have you found being part of the group?**

It has been a great experience working with people of all ages and I'd like to consider them as friends.

### **Has volunteering brought you a sense of achievement?**

Definitely, just to see the 'before and after' effects of different projects and to feel good having made that difference.

### **Do you hope your TCV volunteering will lead to, or achieve, anything in particular?**

I hope to be able to continue volunteering and to use the skills I have gained in everyday life, and also if employment came up that I could use them in.

### **What have you found challenging whilst volunteering with us?**

It's taken me out of my comfort zone and doing things I would never have contemplated attempting before. So, challenging in a positive way.

### **What message would you give to someone thinking about volunteering with TCV?**

Go for it! It's the best thing I have done in a long time and will never regret it.

### **What three words would you use to sum up your volunteering experience?**

Fun. Positive. Worthwhile.

Will George adds:

*"Audrey has been an enthusiastic and reliable presence in our West Lothian Community Gardening Initiative. She always mucks in and gets the job done whatever the task and weather. She has taken every opportunity to learn new skills and go beyond her comfort zone, and she is always a pleasure to speak to. With the lockdown restrictions gradually easing again, it has been great to have Audrey out with us again."*

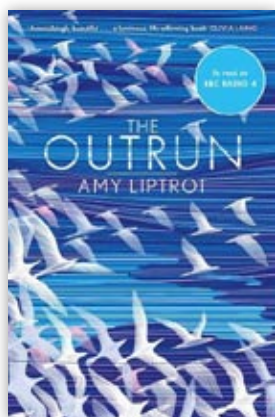


# A good read

In the uncertain times of the past year or so, many people have turned to nature to provide some relief and positivity, whether on their daily walks in the park or local greenspaces, or between the covers of a good book. Here, TCV staff give their recommendations of nature-based books they have enjoyed recently.

## The Outrun

By Amy Liptrot



At the age of thirty, the author finds herself washed up back at home in Orkney after a chaotic time struggling with addiction for the last ten years of her life in London. Spending her mornings swimming in the sea,

tracking Orkney's wildlife, and searching for the Northern Lights she discovers how the wild can restore life and renew hope. A powerful story with some beautiful imagery of Orkney's nature and wild creatures.

**Kirsty Crawford, Senior Project Officer, Glasgow**

## A Sting in the Tale: My Adventures with Bumblebees

By Dave Goulson



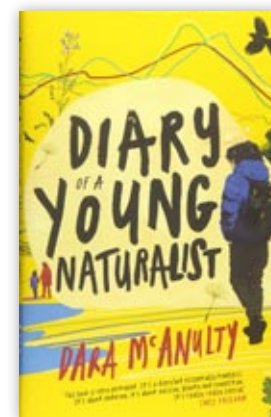
The author takes you on a journey, where you become intrigued with the wonderful world of bumblebees. He ventures back to his youth where he started to become interested in all aspects of nature and exploring it. This

thirst for knowledge and understanding has resulted in discovery close to home and further afield tracing the existence of the bumblebee species. A fascinating read without being too heavy with facts and figures.

**Lindsay Twilley, Senior Project Officer, Kilmarnock**

## Diary of a Young Naturalist

By Dara McNulty



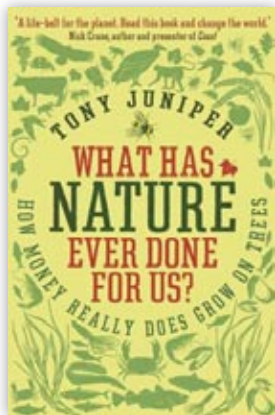
Dara is a teenager with autism who lives in Northern Ireland with his family. In this book he describes his journey and relationship with nature throughout a whole year, his personal experiences with

autism, and his activism for conservation. Diary of a Young Naturalist won the 2020 Wainwright Prize for UK Nature Writing. A lovely read!

**Doro Richter, Senior Project Officer, Edinburgh**

## What Has Nature Ever Done For Us?

By Tony Juniper



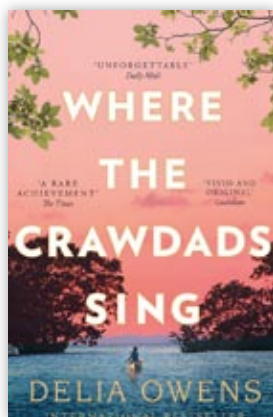
From Indian vultures to British bumblebees, nature provides 'natural services' – recycling the soil, providing pest control, removing carbon, preventing flooding. It's been estimated nature is worth as much as \$100

trillion annually but yet we take much of what nature does for granted. This book sets out fascinating chapters each on a service nature provides and give the alternative, what if this free service was switched off, how much do we really rely on the natural world around us?

**Kirsty Crawford, Senior Project Officer, Glasgow**

## Where the Crawdads Sing

By Delia Owens



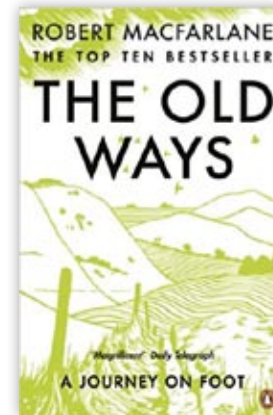
This is quite a tragic tale of a young girl, abandoned by her family in the swamplands of North Carolina. She keeps herself isolated from the community for fear of being taken away for the land and nature she loves around her. She grows up alone, learning from the amazing wildlife around her, the ecosystems of the marshlands and develops hunting skills. As she grows into a teenager, she learns about the mating rituals (watching fireflies) and how that influences how she deals with the attention of local teenage boys.

It's also a murder mystery with themes of exclusion and prejudice running through it. All of these aspects make it a really compelling story against a backdrop of wonderful nature and coastline. It's no wonder there are lots of film makers vying for the film rights!

**Debbie Adams, Director for Scotland and Northern Ireland**

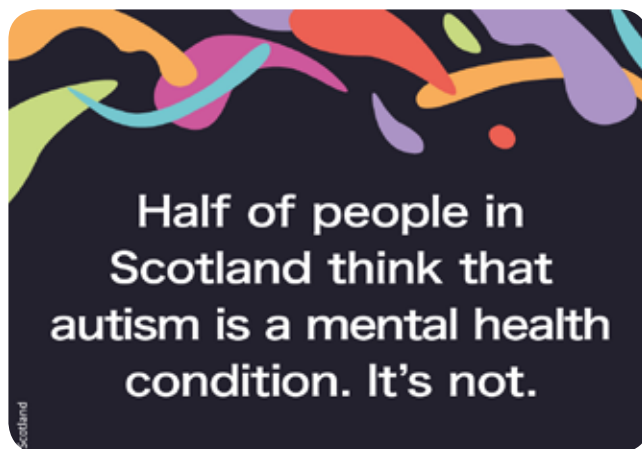
## The Old Ways: A Journey on Foot

By Robert Macfarlane



One of the UK's most popular nature writers retraces the walks he has made on some of the old paths, tracks and drove-roads that criss-cross the British landscape. In particular, he travels through the gentle countryside of Southern England and the harsher environments of the Cairngorms and the Isle of Lewis and Harris. Macfarlane also highlights the importance of ancient sea routes – the motorways of their day – in connecting people and communities. The many paths trodden lead him on a journey through history, culture and religion, and he describes many of the natural features, plants and wildlife encountered along the way, plus some of the interesting characters who provided help, stories and occasional dram. And he notes positively about the '*newly enlightened access laws of Scotland*'.

**Graham Burns, Project Officer, Glasgow**



## Different Minds. One Scotland

By **Ettie Shattock**, Senior Project Officer

Did you know that 1 in 100 people in Scotland are autistic? TCV is proud to support The Scottish Strategy for Autism's 'Different Minds. One Scotland' campaign to help share a clearer understanding of autism to the non-autistic population. Autism is a neurological difference that people are born with – autistic brains work differently to non-autistic brains. Autism affects the way that people experience the world around them, in both positive and negative ways.

Over the past ten years TCV Scotland has developed our work supporting people with disabilities, including autistic people, to access and engage with the outdoors. We have worked with various communities and partners such as Scottish Autism to understand the needs of the individuals they support. Every autistic person's experience of the world is unique, and by working together to understand their experiences, we can help increase their access to nature and greenspaces. Feedback on our work highlights how being outside in nature can really help those who are easily overwhelmed, that being active outdoors helps to establish sleep patterns, increases appetite and provides opportunities to learn in a new hands-on way.





PIXABAY/ BORISLAGOSBARRERA

*“We felt free to join the activities in a very relaxed environment – the kids feeling included.”*

**Family who attended a Saturday club for families with autistic children**

*“A great programme and something that will be really beneficial for all the individuals we support. The sessions have gone well and we have received lots of positive feedback from our service users.”*

**Partner organisation**

Supported by the RS Macdonald Charitable Trust, we are currently working with partners to understand the new barriers to accessing the outdoors that Covid-19 has created. We are exploring how we can best support organisations to help increase access to greenspaces for people with disabilities, including autistic people.

If you belong to an organisation who support people with disabilities, we would love to hear from you by **taking part in our survey**

To learn more about autism, follow **#DifferentMinds** on social media.





PHOTOS: CAROLYN DICK

# Rewild the Child

By **Carolyn Dick**, Senior Project Officer

I currently run the Rewild the Child programme in the communities of Camelon and Denny, near Falkirk. The programme provides opportunities for children aged 5-12 years old to experience free play in nature, right on their own doorstep. Our partners are Denny Community Support Group who provide us with outdoor space to meet up and refer children to the programme.

We run two outdoor sessions per week in each community, utilising local greenspaces and using natural materials. Activities include nature exploration, sensory nature play, creative nature crafts play, science and nature activities, and messy play! So, among other things we build dens and use them to play tig, do a muddy obstacle course, play the balance challenge on fallen trees, and we recently had a slackline out which the kid's loved walking on!





During the recent Covid situation we've had two staff out on site who socially distance from the children, and we get the older children to support the younger ones. So, they give out hand sanitiser on arrival and at the end of each session and support their peers when needed during an activity. If two meters can't be maintained between staff and children – masks are worn, and on occasions where staff are close to children it's for no more than a minute. The children have been really excited to be outside and have been maintaining the safety measures really well.

It has been an absolute pleasure getting the kids out during the recent restrictions, as previously hardly any of the children had quality play outdoors. And looking ahead, we are exploring possible funding to extend the project as the benefits have had a great impact on the families involved.

*"I'm so glad the club's back as I've been wanting to come for ages."*

*"I love coming here."*

*"My son is so glad the club is back, he loves it."*

*"The kids really need this, mine have hardly been out."*



# Nature Notes

By **Paul Barclay**, Project Officer,  
Cumbernauld Living Landscape

If you have a garden, or help care for a woodland or suitable habitat, why not add some primroses which are available as seed, and in plugs and containers ready for planting.

## Primroses



PHOTO: WILLIAM WARBY/FLICKR

One of the signs of spring is the emergence of primroses, bringing a splash of yellow to our woods and hedgerows. Primroses gain their common name from the Latin *Prima Rosa* – meaning ‘first flower’ or ‘first rose’, although it isn’t actually a member of the rose family. Before the arrival of the non-native snowdrop, crocus and daffodil, this native plant would indeed have been one of the first flowers to bloom in spring.

The scientific name, *Primula vulgaris*, indicates it was thought to be the most common member of the primula family, though it may now be less common in some areas due to habitat loss. It grows in shady woodland clearings and under hedgerows, and it can also be found near streams and other damp areas. It is a good indicator of ancient woodland, so when you find primroses check your surroundings as you may be in an ancient place.



MELINDA YOUNG STEWART/FLICKR

Primroses grow to about 10cm high, the flowers having five notched yellow petals with deeper orangey centres. The leaves form in clusters at the base of the plant and are hairy underneath. Male and female flowers grow on different plants and the flowers can only set seed when both are present in the same area. Many never do so, a fact that was recognised as far back as Shakespearean times when the great bard wrote of '*pale primroses that die unmarried*'. They are a great nectar source but flower a little early for the majority of pollinators. Perhaps their primary beneficiaries are ants who are attracted to the fertilised seeds and carry them off to their nests – dispersing the seeds as they do.

They were once supposedly considered to be a special treat for children to eat and teas – and even wines – were brewed from the flowers and leaves. However, there is now a fair amount of evidence that they commonly cause allergic reactions so they shouldn't be picked for foraging – especially as they are so over-harvested in any case. It was said that some children who ate the leaves were able to see fairies – which may be a hint of the allergic reactions. They were also commonly used to treat minor skin conditions like acne as well as cuts and bruises, though again due to the dangers of allergic skin reactions they should probably be avoided.

In folklore it was believed that planting primroses by your doorway kept fairies out of the house, though confusingly, hanging them over your doorway was an invitation for fairies to come in! Knocking on a rock with a bunch of primroses might open a door to fairyland... though you need exactly the right number of flowers in your bunch. Get it wrong and you'll be dragged down to fairyland never to return!

A primrose petal under the pillow was a sure cure for insomnia and the '*he loves me, he loves me not*' game where you pick the petals off the flowers to reveal your true love was originally played with primroses – though as almost all have five petals it was pretty easy to make sure you got the right answer! Finding a primrose with six petals was a sign of great luck. And primroses were the favourite flower of British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli who died on 19th April 1881, since when the 19th April has been celebrated annually as Primrose Day.





© B JAMIESON

Community  
Network  
member



## In black and white

Here, the charity **Scottish Badgers** outlines the biology and ecology of one of the UK's most distinctive but rarely seen animals, the threats they face, and the work being done to protect them.

The European or Eurasian Badger *Meles meles* is a native British species of mammal and a member of the mustelid family, which includes pine martens and stoats. They live in social but territorial groups called a 'clan', which generally consists of a dominant pair and their offspring, but can include up to nine individuals. Badgers are nocturnal, and live in an underground structure called a sett, which is often made up of a number of entrance holes leading into a subterranean tunnel and chamber system. As a result, they





*Volunteers looking in sett entrance (photo taken before Covid restrictions).*

ELAINE RAINEY



*Some of the South Lanarkshire Branch members on a survey.* ELAINE RAINEY

are prolific and powerful diggers with strong, short limbs and long claws that help them excavate. They will often live in the same sett for generations if undisturbed, with some known setts being in continual use for centuries, and there can be a number of different setts within a clan's territory. The number of setts, and the number of entrances per sett, has no bearing on the number of badgers within a territory. Despite being nocturnal and living underground, badgers have poor eyesight and rely instead on their powerful sense of smell and hearing.

The badgers' main diet is earthworms and other insects, although there will be seasonal variations to this. For example, in the spring they will eat bulbous plants such as daffodils, tulips and species such as pignut, in the summer wasps and bumblebee nests for the larvae, and in the autumn they will eat grains from nearby fields and fruits such as blackberries and apples. They do also predate small vertebrates, such as rabbit kits, hedgehogs and the eggs of ground nesting birds, although this isn't as common. Their feeding strategy is to generally follow the paths and their noses, as they have an incredible sense of smell, but as their eyesight is very poor, fast moving prey is rarely sought.

## Badgers in Scotland

Badgers are present in most parts of Scotland, though due to their nocturnal and secretive behaviours, you might never have noticed them before.

The Scottish Badger Distribution Survey, undertaken by Scottish Badgers between 2006 and 2009, found the highest density of main setts occurred in areas where the dominant habitat was arable farmland, deciduous woodland or intensive grassland. However, setts can also be present in many other types such as coniferous woodland, urban spaces, wet moorland, high-altitude rocky terrain and coastal areas. Badgers can only exist where they are able to dig, so local geology is very important.

Badgers can only be found on one of the islands on the west coast, Arran, where they were introduced for hunting purposes. They were previously found on Skye, but there have been no recent signs.

## About Scottish Badgers

Scottish Badgers is Scotland's only charity committed to the protection of badgers and their habitats. Through a small, but committed, network of volunteers and branches all over Scotland, we:

- Survey and record the presence of badgers.
- Provide expert advice to the public on all badger matters.
- Provide training for our members and professionals in badger ecology, awareness, field skills, and the law.
- Work with young people to fire their imagination and create positive attitudes to the environment.
- Prevent badger persecution and crime.
- Provide expert advice to professionals in planning, development, forestry, transport, and agriculture.
- Provide expert advice and assistance to Police Scotland and the Scottish SPCA and expert witnesses to the courts.
- Increase public awareness of badgers and the threats they face.
- Host an annual conference on badger matters.
- Initiate and assist with research into badger biology, ecology and behaviour.

## Threats to badgers

Despite being protected by law (The Protection of Badgers Act), badgers face a wide number of threats, from deliberate attempts to harm or kill them, to damage to their setts through careless land management practices. In the early 1900's badgers were thought to have seen local extinction in some areas due to persecution. These numbers are still in recovery, and in some parts of Scotland still incredibly low. It is estimated Scotland has around 10% of the UK population of badgers.

Unfortunately, due to a combination of long-held prejudices, misinformation and, for some, the misplaced belief in 'traditional activities', badgers face an extensive range of threats. Some of the more common types are listed below:

- Badger baiting and sett digging
- Snaring
- Sett blocking
- Agricultural activity
- Forestry activity
- Development activity

It's very sad, but very true, that Scotland's badgers continue to face incredible pressure and persecution across the country.

## Covid

Covid restrictions have had many impacts on the normal operations of the charity. We've been unable to get our branches together on group surveys for over a year, and we've had to curtail other events, or move them online. We haven't decided on our plans for this year's conference yet, but if it's safe for us to return to an in-person event, then we'd very much welcome that.

If you'd like to know more about our work, or would like to get involved in Scottish Badgers fight against persecution, please visit [www.scottishbadgers.org.uk](http://www.scottishbadgers.org.uk). You'll also find easy-to-use links to report badger sightings and make donations in support of our important activities.



GET  
INVOLVED  
TODAY!

## Creating Natural Connections Wild Ways Well Spring



For more ideas, read the  
**Wild Ways Well Spring booklet**

\*Wild Ways Well is an innovative project connecting people with nature, and is organised by  
**Cumbernauld Living Landscape**

# Spring has sprung

Spring is upon us with the days lengthening and signs of life bursting out all around us. To mark spring's arrival the Wild Ways Well\* project in Cumbernauld has produced its latest booklet of seasonal facts, folklore and activities to get people out and about to observe and conserve nature, and to enhance their health and wellbeing along the way. And it's just not the good folk of Cumbernauld who can benefit from some spring therapy:

- A good place to start is simply to look and listen for the birds who are more active and singing louder during the nesting season. Blossom is blooming on the trees and shrubs, and flowers are emerging such as daffodils, lesser celandine and **primrose**. And you may see more wildlife on the move, including brown hares chasing around 'boxing' each other in lowland fields. Less common are our native mountain hares although they may still be visible in their white winter coats.
- Spring is a good time to become a citizen scientist to record your local wildlife and help scientists and conservationists build an accurate picture of the health of our wildlife and environment. Importantly, this includes recording common species as well as any rarities, so you *don't* have to be an expert to get involved. The booklet outlines the basics of making records and where to send your results.
- Fun activities are a great way to involve children in discovering the magic of nature. One example is worm charming which can include 'dancing' on the ground, creating vibrations to mimic falling raindrops which encourage worms to the surface. Strange, but true.
- There are plenty of simple actions which can help and attract wildlife - build a bug hotel, plant a tree, sow some wildflower seeds.
- Spring can get your creativity flowing, so why not follow in the footsteps of famous writers or poets like Wordsworth - "I wandered lonely as a cloud", or use your photographic or drawing talents to capture a flower, leaf bud or 'sense' of spring eg change.

So, there's plenty to do to enjoy and celebrate spring.



# Free membership

The Conservation Volunteers believe that every community should have access to high quality local green spaces which are safe and welcoming, and home to thriving nature. TCV are committed to supporting a community network of groups and organisations who share that vision.

The Community Network currently supports 1,500 community and voluntary groups across the UK, with over 200 in Scotland. Members receive discounts from TCV's suppliers of tools, trees, seeds and equipment, funding information, regular newsletters, discounted insurance, and more. We are once again able to offer Community Network membership for FREE for new and existing members, thanks to support from players of People's Postcode Lottery.

**Join the Network now**



The Network Bulletin is produced three times annually and contains news and features on Community Network member groups, plus TCV Scotland projects, programmes and volunteers.

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**Find your nearest TCV Scotland office**

TCV Scotland's community, health and environmental volunteering activities are supported by organisations and partners including:



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