




NESBiP February 2026 Update

Scots Pine Rehoming with NESBiP & Cairngorm Bothies

 Wednesday 4th March or Saturday 7th March
 Cairngorm Bothies
 10:00 - 12:00 or 13:00 - 16:00

Hundreds of young Scots pine saplings are ready for rehoming - and we need your help! Join NESBiP, NESBiP partners and Cairngorm Bothies to dig up and collect native Scots pine to plant in your garden, community green space, or larger restoration project.

[Find out more and book a place to rehome Scots Pine here](#)



© Cairngorm Bothies

Natural Environment Bill (Scotland) Passed!

Just in case you missed it! There has been big news for nature in Scotland!

The Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill has now been passed — a major milestone for nature restoration and stronger protections across Scotland.

CIEEM have created a summary explaining what this means, along with some infographics to help explain the key changes.

[Read it here](#)



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NESBReC Recorders Forum 2026



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Saturday 28th March
 Zoology Building, Aberdeen University
 10:00 - 15:00

An annual forum for wildlife recorders in the north east of Scotland with talks and the opportunity to network with others on arrival and at lunchtime.

Tickets are selling fast, book your place

Waiting on the weather: Starting this year's seal surveys

SRUC PhD Student Claire and her brilliant team of volunteers are almost ready to kick off this year's monitoring season!

Understanding how these species use our waters is essential for protecting them, and the blog gives a great behind-the-scenes look at how this long-term monitoring happens. Especially when the weather keeps you stuck indoors!



© Claire Stanfield

Read the latest update here

Deadline to share your climate story is approaching



Share a climate-themed story to support new research at the University of Glasgow on how people in Scotland feel about climate change and its effects on wellbeing. No writing experience needed. Stories up to 1,000 words. Fiction or nonfiction. Open to adults living in Scotland.

Deadline: 28 February 2026.

Submit at **www.climatestories.co.uk**

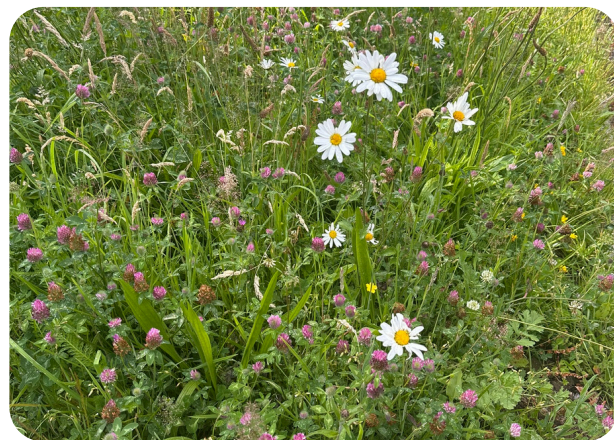


Small Urban Spaces, make a big difference!

New research across Europe shows that diverse planting and flower-rich patches help bees thrive in towns and cities.

If you want to help here in the North East, start with native plants — they're perfectly suited for our local pollinators.

Explore NESBiP's Native Plant List
Read the full blog



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Save the Date - Aberdeen City-Wide BioBlitz Friday 14th August

An Aberdeen City-Wide BioBlitz is coming soon, with guided wildlife walks planned across the city. We'll also be encouraging everyone to get involved by recording the wildlife they see in their own gardens or local greenspaces.

If you'd be interested in leading a walk or activity on the day, **please let me know**. More information will follow shortly!

Learn more about how to run a BioBlitz.

When a Sightings Makes the News

A newly published NESBReC blog written by Paul Guntrip, tells the story behind the giant gelatinous octopus that caused a real media buzz when it was first found.

Read it here

Every record helps build a clearer picture of our region's wildlife.



© Paul Guntrip



Wetland Actions for the NESBiP Big 5 - World Wetland Day

© NESBiP Archive



We celebrated World Wetland Day on 2nd February with simple actions for the NESBiP Big 5.

Wetlands, water, and life are interconnected, playing a crucial role for the NESBiP Big 5. Despite recent rainfall, North East Scotland continues to experience water scarcity, underscoring the urgent need to care for and protect our wetlands.

Discover the Wetland Actions for the NESBiP Big 5 by reading our blog.

Tree planting and path improvements at Millbuies Country Park

Moray Council have partnered with Wild Things and Gordonstoun School on a tree planting project at Millbuies Country Park.

This work is supplementing the broader replanting of native species at Millbuies to increase the woodlands biodiversity as part of the sites management plan.

Wild Things worked with a team of dedicated volunteers to plant 200 Sessile oak. As a keystone species, Oaks provide habitat for more species than any other native tree, so we look forward to watching this planting develop.

As well as tree planting, Gordonstoun have been monitoring the success of replanted trees and removing self-seeded invasive trees like spruce.

Significant path improvements and bridge replacements have also been completed this winter, increasing the accessibility of the site.

© Wild Things



Climate Week North East 2026 (CWNE) is coming this September, and planning is underway.

CWNE is a community-led programme of events that brings together people, groups and organisations from across the North East to share ideas, build connections, and take practical action on climate change. Originally started by Aberdeen Climate Action and now organised by NESCAN Hub, CWNE has been uniting communities across Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire with inspiring, educational, and fun events that show how small steps add up to big impacts in addressing climate change.

This year, we are inviting individuals and organisations to get involved by joining our steering group (who meet once a month online), hosting events, participating in activities, and helping spread the word. Events can be big or small, so whether you're planning workshops, talks, community projects, nature walks, creative sessions, or sustainability showcases, there's a spot for your event in CWNE's programme.

Here's how you can get involved at the 2026 CWNE:

- Host events during Climate Week North East 2026
- Encourage your network to attend the events during this week, promote climate awareness and engage in meaningful action.
- Share announcements, event opportunities, and updates across your contacts and communications channels like mailing lists, newsletters, social media platforms etc.

If you or people in your network are interested in putting on an event as part of CWNE 2026, or simply want to stay involved and informed, please share this widely and encourage others to take part.

Drop us a line at cwne@nescan.org to discuss your ideas and get support to bring them into the CWNE calendar. Find more about CWNE at www.climateweeknortheast.org.



© Abbie Ferrar



Living Heritage in the UK

Calling all heritage keepers, crafts people, community groups & cultural champions!

Living Heritage in the UK

A new national platform has been established to honor the traditions, skills, and knowledge that constitute the living heritage of the UK. This heritage is categorized into seven distinct areas, with nature being one of them!

Communities are encouraged to share their stories, encompassing everything from land-based practices to seasonal customs and nature-inspired traditions. This initiative, backed by UNESCO, aims to help shape the UK's living heritage inventory. If your cultural heritage is intertwined with the land and the natural environment, this is an excellent opportunity to ensure it is recognized and cherished for generations to come.

[Find out more](#)

Nature Connectedness Network - Resources

The Nature Connectedness Network offers a great collection of evidence-based guides, handbooks and research blogs to help people build a stronger relationship with nature.

These resources highlight simple, effective actions (like noticing everyday nature, engaging your senses, and creative nature-based activities) all shown to improve wellbeing and encourage pro-nature behaviours. They're ideal for anyone looking to bring more nature connection into their daily life, workplace or community projects.



[Find out more](#)



Upcoming Events

- Clinging by a Claw - A film about Saving Scotland's Wildcats, Tomintoul Richmond Memorial Hall. Saturday 28th February, 18:30 [☛ Find out more](#)
- Fochabers Wildlife Day, Fochabers Wildlife Day. Saturday 14th March, 10:00 - 16:00. [☛ Find out more](#)
- Wildtalk Talk - Local Nature Reserves, Online. Thursday 19th March, 19:30 - 21:00 [☛ Email the SWT Local Group to find out more](#)
- Reviving the River Calder: A Nature-Based Blueprint for Biodiversity and Climate Resilience, Glen Banchor, Newtonmore. Thursday 14th May, 10:00 - 12:00. [☛ Find out more](#)
- Wildlife Gardening Talks at Aberdeenshire Libraries [☛ Find out more](#)
- Aberdeenshire Council Countryside Rangers [☛ Upcoming Events](#)
- Aberdeen City Council Countryside Rangers [☛ Upcoming Events](#)
- NESBReC [☛ Upcoming Events.](#)
- A brand new film club in Peterhead, and it's free to attend! [☛ Friends of the Earth Reel Change](#)

Other Updates

- Get involved with Citizen Science in 2026 [☛ Find out how](#)
- Job Vacancy with Aberdeenshire Council's Natural Environment Team, deadline 9th March [☛ Find out more](#)
- Join the NES Mammal Network [☛ FREE membership registration](#)
- Join the Nature-Friendly Farming Network [☛ More information](#)
- **NESBiP Big 5:** Learn how to take action and protect Hedgehog, Swift, Northern Damsel fly, Mixed Native Hedgerow Species and Native Willow Species.
- Wild About Your Garden booklets [☛ You can download a copy here.](#)
- NESBiP is on Instagram [☛ Follow us, tag us in your biodiversity photos and share our posts](#)
- Did you miss our previous newsletter and would like to catch up? Find them on our website [☛ NESBiP Monthly Newsletter](#)

