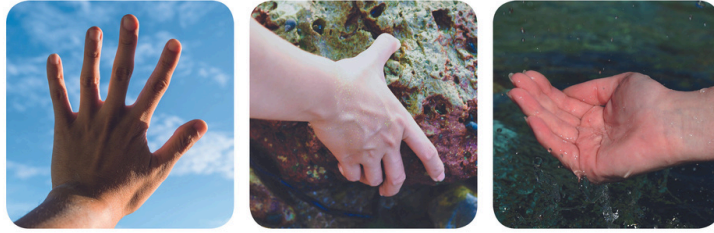


AUGUST 2025



southern uplands partnership
living land, living community

SUP NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2025



Swallows and Martins gathering to depart. Image credit: Mark Pollitt @ SWSEIC

Hello and welcome to our August newsletter!

Our thoughts, and the weather, are slowly turning to autumn, as we say hello to much needed rain and goodbye to our migratory birds. We hope you can take some time to enjoy these last days of summer.

On a policy note, the Scottish Government has recently launched consultations on the draft Land use and Agriculture Just Transition Plan (LAJTP), and Scotland's Fourth Land Use Strategy. Both consultations are open until 5th October 2025 and all our members and stakeholders are encouraged to respond.

Read on for news of upcoming September events from The Southern Uplands Partnership and our partners, working together for a "Living Land, Living Community".

Keeping in touch

www.sup.org.uk



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- [Tweed River Culture – join an event along the river!](#)
- [Meanwhile, in Dumfries and Galloway & Ayrshire...](#)
- [Rewilding in the Borders and Beyond](#)

Tweed River Culture - join an event along the river!



Image credit: Kat Gollock and Zoe Hamil

There are five inspiring events coming up along the Tweed in September, facilitated by our Connecting Threads team and partners, within the wider [Destination Tweed](#) project.

First up on the 4th, Norham Arts and artist Rachel Sutherland are holding **“Flowing Light”**, a tribute to the fluid, luminous quality of JMW Turner’s work, in celebration of the 250th anniversary of his birth and links to the area, which he returned to often during his life.

Then, on the 6th, **“Bedtime at the River”** at Traquair will see a family-friendly exploration of learning about bats and moths, experiencing music, story and song with sound artist Kate Cohen, and meeting plants that can help us relax at bedtime.
contd over.

Tweed River Culture - join an event along the river contd.

On the 7th, join artist-photographers Kat Gollock and Zoe Hamill to share your stories of the river, make prints using alternative photographic processes and learn more about the ***Terra Incognita*** project as part of Newstead's inaugural Sundial Festival.

On the 15th, join artist Annie Lord in Berwick on Tweed for a talk about her community-based 2024 project, **Sketching in Stone**, part of the Berwick Bridge 400 celebrations. Hear about her archive research and learn about how she created watercolour paints from the same local sandstone used to repair the bridge.

Finally, on the 27th, join Connecting Threads at Little Art Hub, Galashiels, for **Tweed Conversations**, a session of poetry reading, riverside conversation and printmaking in celebration of Tweed, a new full-length poem in Scots by Borders-based poet Craig Aitchison. Full details and booking information for each event is here: <https://www.tweedriverculture.org/whats-on>

Meanwhile, in Dumfries & Galloway and Ayrshire...



NithRaid 2025 Parade: Image Credit M Haddow

Our South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (SWSEIC) team are winding down after a busy summer of events in communities. We were delighted to be part of the recent **NithRaid** in Dumfries and inspire wonderful swift and moth-themed costumes and banners (amongst many others)!


Coming up this month, you can join us at **Threave Nature Reserve Mini Bioblitz**, on Saturday 6th September. NTS Rangers and SWSEIC staff are aiming to gather some early autumn wildlife records at Threave Nature Reserve. For further details and booking visit the Eventbrite booking page - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mini-bioblitz-tickets-1634251904439>

If you're in or near Alloway, SWSEIC will have a stand at the ExplorAyr event at the Burns Museum, on Saturday 13th September 12.00 - 4.00 pm. Come and say hello!

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Rewilding in the Borders and Beyond

Back in the Borders on the 26th, you can join our Scottish Borders Climate Action Network team and Bright Green Nature for this fascinating and thought-provoking upcoming talk - all the info below!




26/09
2-4.30
THE HAINING

EXPERTISE TALK

AN INTRODUCTION TO
Rewilding

<https://rewildingexpertisetalk.eventbrite.com>


It's free! Book your spot:




*tea, coffee and refreshments will be available

Join ecosystem health scientist, Dr Karen Blackport (CEO of Bright Green Nature and co-convenor of the Scottish Rewilding Alliance) to explore what rewilding really means. Whether you're new to the concept or looking to deepen your understanding, this session will offer a grounded, practical overview of rewilding in a local context.

BRIGHTGREENNATURE



SBCAN
SCOTTISH BORDERS CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK



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being bold, being community

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