



southern uplands partnership
living land, living community

SUP NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2026



Greener Peebles Living Hub engagement Feb 26 Image credit: SUP/SBCAN

Hello and welcome to our February newsletter.

We hope these cheery young folks from Priorsford Primary (pictured at Greener Peebles Community Garden earlier this month) inspire you to get outside into our beautiful Southern Uplands, whatever the weather!

Our newsletter has something of a jobs theme this month, with two vacancies closing soon. There is just one week left to apply for our new **Head of Land Use and Biodiversity** role. We are also seeking a new **River Culture Animateur** for the Lower Tweed within the Connecting Threads team. Read on for more on those opportunities below!

Also this month we share an update on the **Living Hubs** project in the Scottish Borders, and how you can help **fill the gaps** in our wildlife records in D&G and Ayrshire.

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- ***We are looking for two new colleagues!***
- ***Help us find the (wildlife) gaps...***
- ***Living Hubs: Community Nature Recovery***

We are looking for two new colleagues!



2025 SUP Christmas meet up, Lochhill Wood. Image credit SUP

Head of Land Use and Biodiversity- just one week to the application deadline!

Are you passionate about connecting, protecting and creating opportunities for thriving nature and community in rural South Scotland? We are, and this new post presents an exciting opportunity to help lead and shape our future work on land use and biodiversity.

We are seeking an experienced, proactive, motivated and flexible senior manager with a background in Ecology, Environmental Management, Land Management or a related discipline. We offer generous terms and conditions (salary £42,436 (FTE)), a great team culture and opportunities for career development.

Interested? Click [here](#) to read all the details on our website and download the full Job Pack. **The application deadline is 10.00 am on Monday 2nd March 2026.**

Seeking our new River Culture Animateur for the Lower Tweed

We are also seeking an experienced and enthusiastic individual, with a background in cultural placemaking and/or participatory arts, to develop and deliver a programme of cultural activities in the lower Tweed area (Kelso to Berwick-upon-Tweed). This role is part of [Connecting Threads](#), the cultural strand of [Destination Tweed](#), a multi-part, landscape-scale project that includes the development of a new River Tweed Trail from source to sea. The role is p/t 0.6 (21 hrs per week); £30,900 pa (£18,540 pa pro rata) and all the job pack can be downloaded [here](#). **Deadline to apply: 9am Monday 9th March 2026.**

Help us find the (wildlife) gaps...



Christa at Loch Lig: Image credit SWSEIC

For our South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre staff, winter is a time spent working with the millions of new wildlife records on our central database. This winter Malcolm and Mark have been analysing the data to identify places where we have few or no wildlife records in the hope we can encourage people to submit records from these places. Some are in remote and out of the way places, whilst others may simply be overlooked because they are slightly off the beaten path. We have produced an interactive online map showing the 1km squares for which we have no wildlife records, and these can be viewed on the SWSEIC website.

<https://swseic.org.uk/wildlife-recording/under-recorded-monads/>

If you are out for a walk in any of these areas it is worth remembering that a record of any birds, butterflies or other wildlife will certainly be improving the understanding of local distribution for any species you see.

And if you are interested in learning more about wildlife recording, watch this space for details of the events we are currently planning for this coming spring/summer season.

Living Hubs: Community Nature Recovery



Greener Peebles Living Hub engagement Feb 26 Image credit: SUP/SBCAN

Our Scottish Borders Climate Action Network team has been working with Bright Green Nature, an environmental charity based near Galashiels, on Living Hubs: Community Nature Recovery. The project is exploring how local spaces, such as gardens, parks and schools, can serve as community-led hubs for climate action, learning, and wellbeing.

Two of the local spaces that we have worked with during the Living Hubs project are Greener Peebles Community Garden and Traquair Forest Garden. Each space has hosted an inclusive workshop for a local community group. On a snowy Friday 13th this month, Greener Peebles welcomed a group of 24 P6-pupils from Priorsford Primary School to their garden where the school group were invited to help contribute to a large-scale creative vision of what an ideal community green-space might look like, using Lego, writing and drawing. We thought it was inspiring how the young people engaged and enjoyed the "snow day"!

If you would like to support the work that Southern Uplands Partnership does, you can donate at the button below:



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