

MARCH 2025



southern uplands partnership
living land, living community

SUP NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025



Image credit Mark Pollitt

Hello and welcome to our March newsletter.

Have you heard or seen frogs and toads this month? We've been enjoying noticing the spring amphibian activity, including frog song- anywhere there's water it seems!

It's a busy a time of year for the Southern Uplands Partnership too, as we approach the financial year end and work to tie up various projects whilst waiting to hear about funding from 1st April. It's a good time to take stock of some highlights as well as plan.


Read on for news from the Southern Uplands Partnership and our partners.

- [*Scottish Borders Climate Action Network: Youth Action Work*](#)
- [*Wildlife Recorders' Gatherings places still available - Troon 5th April*](#)
- [*Funding & support for community projects in East Dumfriesshire*](#)

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SBCAN - Youth Action Work



LGBT Youth Borders: Image credit SBCAN

Our Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN) team have been doing an amazing job to engage young people in understanding climate change and taking action and we wanted to highlight some of it this month.

Check out SBCAN's short film showcasing work with young people, including groups that have benefitted from the youth project seed funding last summer. You can watch the video on the dedicated YouTube channel here: [Scottish Borders Climate Action Network - YouTube](#)

Big thanks and well done to [Stow Disrupters](#), [Go Wild Scotland](#), [Brothers of charity Scotland - Tweedbank Hub](#), Interest Link and [Tweeddale Youth Action](#) for joining us in the video to showcase their fabulous projects, which will no doubt inspire many!

Wildlife Recorders' Gatherings - places still available for Troon 5th April



Delegates @ Dumfries Recorders' Gathering March 2025 image credit SWSEIC

Our South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (SWSEIC) team were delighted to welcome 80 people to the first of two south west wildlife recorders' gatherings at The Bridge in Dumfries earlier this month. Fascinating talks from Scottish Badgers, RSPB and the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland were all very well received, as was the opportunity to mingle, browse the stalls and join the afternoon workshop or guided walk.

Our next wildlife recorders' gathering will take place on Saturday 5th April at The Walker Hall in Troon. The line-up includes talks about pollinators, wildlife in cemeteries and the chance to join a guided walk looking at shoreline wildlife and birds with the BTO. Places are still available and further details and booking can be found at:

<https://fienta.com/dumfries-galloway-wildlife-recorders-gathering-2025>

Funding and support for community projects in East Dumfriesshire: Deadline 23rd April; Congratulations Brydekirk, Langholm, Canonbie and others!

The Southern Uplands Partnership is delighted to support the work of two community-led charities in East Dumfriesshire, Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group SCIO (DECBG) and Crossdykes Community Benefit Limited, both of which distribute community benefit funds from local windfarms. As well as supporting their operations, we also support community groups directly, through our East Dumfriesshire Community Officer, Jamie Dent.

The Crossdykes fund is now open to applications, with a closing date of 23rd April. More information and the online application can be found [here](#).

In its March funding round, DECBG allocated £100,000 to ten successful groups. Projects supported included community hall energy projects in Brydekirk and Langholm, installing solar panels, batteries and insulation. Huge thanks to ScottishPower Renewables for making this possible.

In another piece of good news, Canonbie Community Enterprise has taken a significant step forward in its ongoing project to take over the local shop and post office, seeking to retain and develop these vital services for the community. We wish them every success!

Community groups seeking support with a grant application or a potential project, can contact Jamie on Jamie@sup.org.uk. Jamie can help you to develop your idea, apply to local funds and find other potential sources of support and funding.

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



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