

MAY 2025



southern uplands partnership
living land, living community

SUP NEWSLETTER MAY 2025



Cuckoo ©Erni/shutterstock.com

Hello and welcome to our May newsletter.

What weather we continue to have! We hope, like us, you are enjoying it.

Read on for news from the Southern Uplands Partnership and our partners, working together for "Living Land, Living Community".

- ***Celebrating 25 years of the Southern Uplands Partnership***
- ***Could you be a SUP freelance associate?***
- ***Scottish Borders Youth Climate action: seed funding deadline soon!***
- ***SWSEIC events***

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Celebrating 25 years of The Southern Uplands Partnership



2025 is SUP's 25th Anniversary year and we recently welcomed old friends and new to a wonderful celebration lunch at the [Eskdalemuir Community Hub](#). We gave presentations and thanks to Dame Barbara Kelly, our President and founder; former Partnership Manager, Pip Tabor, for his incredible 23 years of service; and Mary Ann Smyth, who wrote the feasibility study which set the scene for the creation of SUP. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch courtesy of [Sarah Laing](#) and it was great to see connections being rekindled and new ones being made between current and former Board members, Patrons and Partners. Thank you all for contributing to the success of the last 25 years, and for joining us as we look forward to the next 25! We think an anniversary like this deserves further celebration, so watch this space for more SUP birthday events later in the year.

Could you be a SUP Freelance Associate?

We are refreshing our pool of Freelance associates and inviting CVs from skilled and experienced people, who share our vision for a sustainable Southern Uplands, and are interested in working with us on a flexible basis. We are seeking people, based in south Scotland or willing to travel, with expertise in any of the areas of rural and/or environmental policy and research; sustainable land management; place-making, community engagement and nature connection. The invitation is on a no commitment basis, and we will follow up with people individually, as opportunities arise. To apply, please send a CV to recruitment@sup.org.uk. There is no closing date but we expect to tender for some opportunities in June/July, so don't delay if you are interested to work with us!

Scottish Borders Youth Climate action: seed funding deadline soon!



SUP-hosted Scottish Borders Climate Action Network has launched its new Youth Climate Action Fund! This was a firm favourite last year so we are delighted to be bringing the opportunity back. Young people across the Scottish Borders are full of inspiring ideas to help tackle the climate crisis and promote community climate action– and we’re here to help bring those ideas to life.

We’re inviting youth groups, schools, clubs and voluntary groups to apply for up to £750 to run a project that makes a difference in your community. Please note, we can only accept one application per group/ school/ organisation.

Projects must take place in 2025 and the deadline for applications is 6th June. Applications will be reviewed and money will then be distributed to those successful w/c 16th June 2025 in time for the summer holidays! The application form is on our website: <https://www.sbcan.co.uk/funding>. Our [funding page](#) has more information but if you have any questions or need any help with your application, please get in touch. Please return completed applications to sbcan@sup.org.uk.

SWSEIC events



Looking at Dragonfly Larvae at Barstobrick: Image credit Jim Logan

Summer is a busy time for our South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (SWSEIC) as wildlife recording opportunities increase and activities ramp up. On Saturday 7th June SWSEIC's Malcolm Hadow will team up with the rangers at Threave Nature Reserve for a 12-hour family-friendly Bioblitz - looking to record many of the different species of wildlife using the reserve. Tickets [here](#) if you want to join in! On 14th June SWSEIC will be holding a beach safari at the [Girvan Tattie Fest](#), exploring and recording some of the wildlife found along the shoreline. Our recording group events are already underway, and after successful visits in May to Glenmidgie and Moffat we will be visiting sites at Eastriggs and Muirkirk in June.

To find out more details of upcoming wildlife recording events in Dumfries and Galloway and Ayrshire make sure you sign up to the SWSEIC email newsletter here: <https://swseic.org.uk/news-events/newsletters/>

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



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[SUP mailing list sign-up form \(mailchi.mp\)](https://mailchi.mp/southernuplands).

