



southern uplands partnership  
*living land, living community*

# SUP NEWSLETTER

## *Project updates...*

Welcome to the latest Southern Uplands Partnership projects updates!

The start of September certainly feels unseasonably summery so far – always nice to stock up on a bit of sunshine as the days noticeably shorten. In these pages, you can read the latest news from Southern Uplands Partnership's projects and core team, including new staff members, new projects and several job opportunities!

A new chapter begins for us this autumn as we welcome our new Chief Executive to take the Southern Uplands Partnership's reins going forward!

See comment below from our Convenor Dr Chris Miles.

### *IN THIS EDITION...*

#### *SUP led/hosted project updates:*

- *Connecting Threads*
- *Undoing the Silence of the Southern Uplands*
- *South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project (SSGEP)*
- *Scottish Borders Construction Forum (SBCF)*
- *South West Scotland Coastal Way (SWSCW)*
- *South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (SWSEIC)*
- *Talla Hartfell Wild Land Area (THWLA)*
- *Red Squirrel Recovery Network (RSRN)*
- *Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group (DECBG)*
- *Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN)*

*Southern Uplands Partnership Team Updates: Pip, Sheila, Katy, Darren*

*And finally...*





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# SUP NEWSLETTER

## **Comment on Southern Uplands Partnership's new Chief Executive by our Convenor:**

"I am pleased to be able to report that Cara Gillespie will be joining SUP on 2nd October as our new Chief Executive. After graduating from Edinburgh University, Cara has held a number of roles initially in Edinburgh and then based in Dumfries and Galloway where she now lives in Gatehouse of Fleet. She was Foundation Scotland's Community Engagement Manager for South Scotland for six years, developing and delivering a portfolio of community benefit funds in Dumfries and Galloway, Scottish Borders and South Ayrshire. She is currently working for Scottish Care representing Dumfries and Galloway independent social care providers with the Council and NHS. Cara has run her own consultancy since 2007 specialising in third sector governance, strategy and business planning and stakeholder engagement. Cara also currently chairs the Scottish Land Fund Committee which considers awards to communities from the National Lottery and Scottish Government. Welcome Cara!"

Dr Chris Miles

## *Connecting Threads*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWEEDRIVERCULTURE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWEEDRIVERCULTURE)

**Connecting Threads has had a busy few months weaving cultural activities around and along the River Tweed!**

Starting off the summer with planting a natural dye garden at the Crook Inn Community Garden in Tweedsmuir in June, we brought Mark Zygadlo's fantastic WaterOrgan to four places along the river over weekends throughout July and August: Peebles, Kelso, Norham, and Paxton House, alongside activities including water organism identification, flag-making and craft workshops, live musical improvisation from a quartet of musicians, and free canoeing sessions.



The WaterOrgan is a mesmerising art installation and kinetic sculpture, made from parts of a church organ mounted on a converted catamaran (along with a host of sensors and clever electronics). It creates music by reading the flux and flow of the water, and it has been so enjoyable seeing how the WaterOrgan reacted so differently to each setting along the river. We have had an amazing response from the communities in each area.

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## *Connecting Threads contd.*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWEEDRIVERCULTURE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWEEDRIVERCULTURE)

Throughout the summer we have been out in community gardens along the River Tweed, working closely with garden volunteers and visitors on our Film Our Gardens project. Film Our Gardens connects five community gardens along the River Tweed, inspiring residents to creatively document the sights and sounds of each garden through film. The filming sessions are drawing to a close, and we are now looking forward to screening the final films at celebratory Harvest events at each garden in the fantastic Moving Images Cinema Caravan.



At this year's Merlindale Nature Festival we collaborated with artists Amanda Edmiston and Alison Roberts to run a range of free creative activities including guided walks, tea tasting, and seed collecting, part of Connecting Threads' evolving relationship with the meadow as a site for cultural activity.

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## *Connecting Threads contd.*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWEEDRIVERCULTURE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWEEDRIVERCULTURE)



Plus, coming up...

### **Dance and Water**

We are excited to be supporting dance artist Rhiana Laws and photographer Huia Takau in a new creative exploration of water, moon and movement. Over the next three months, Rhiana and Huia will be working with local wild swimmers and the river Tweed to artistically explore the many voices and faces of water as she flows under the bright, or dark, moon.

### **Saul Pankhurst**

This month we are welcoming filmmaker Saul Pankhurst back to Robert Smail's Printing Works and the Tweed Valley to continue developing his project Touch Type. Since his residency in the late winter, Saul has been exploring the hours of recorded interviews and analogue film footage that he captured in and around the printing works. On his return trip, Saul will be developing the narrative of his project, building the storyline that will tie the work together into his first long-form film. With thanks to the National Trust for Scotland for their ongoing support and enthusiasm.

## *Undoing the Silence of the Southern Uplands: Black Grouse Project*

[HTTPS://SUP.ORG.UK/PROJECTS/BLACK-GROUSE-RECOVERY-PROJECT/](https://sup.org.uk/projects/black-grouse-recovery-project/)

**During late 2022 and early 2023, a multi-stakeholder project, led by SUP and RSPB Scotland, pulled together all the previous research and consultation into a single upland restoration project spanning southern Scotland, from Galloway Forest Park in the west to the Moorfoot Hills in the east.**

Taking the once abundant black grouse as its start point, we successfully applied for development funding from the NatureScot Nature Recovery Fund (NRF) to develop a fully costed landscape delivery project that will take significant positive steps to address the health of our uplands and its totemic species. We submitted the development phase report to NatureScot early July and this was closely followed by a formal £1.4m funding application to deliver a range of practical upland habitat works. The funding announcement is due late September 2023.

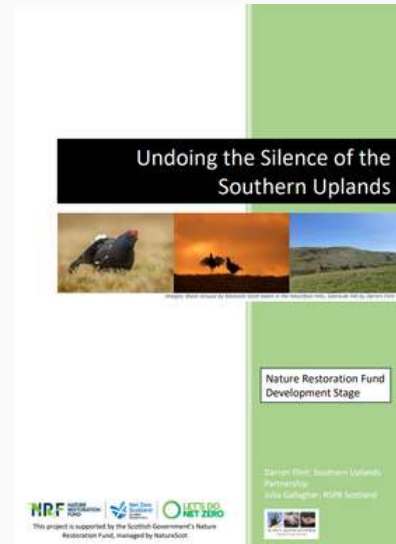
The project includes:

- Habitat restoration and management across five areas, including low density broadleaf planting, rewetting peatlands, removal of non-native tree regeneration, heather swiping, pond creation, no-fence collar grazing
- Formulation of landowner cluster groups and development of wider participants
- Species and habitat surveying and monitoring (status/condition relating to project activities)
- Community engagement
  - Volunteering
  - Tree provenance and nurseries
- Recruitment of an Uplands Project Officer to lead on all the above aspects

## *Undoing the Silence of the Southern Uplands: Black Grouse Project contd.*

[HTTPS://SUP.ORG.UK/PROJECTS/BLACK-GROUSE-RECOVERY-PROJECT/](https://sup.org.uk/projects/black-grouse-recovery-project/)

The core project partners are: Airds Estate, Borders Forest Trust, Buccleuch Estates, Carbon Crichton Centre, Carcant Estate, Forestry and Land Scotland, Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, John Muir Trust, National Trust for Scotland, NatureScot, Tarras Valley Nature Reserve, Wemyss and March Estates, Woodland Trust. With wider stakeholder support from Game and Wildlife Conservancy Trust, Scottish Water, SEPA, Tweed Forum.



If you would like to read the NRF Development stage report, visit:  
<https://sup.org.uk/projects/black-grouse-recovery-project>



This project is supported by the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, managed by NatureScot

### **Community Engagement and Cultural Elements**

We are now starting to explore what the community and cultural elements of the project could look like and talk to various communities and groups. Early thoughts include:

- Tree champion schools and groups – where we set up mini tree nurseries, run classes and then take groups out on to the hills to plant their trees;
- Black Grouse Community Place Plans – where we explore with communities their role and sense of place in the uplands, its promotion and protection;
- Setting up of community Lek information points;
- Running a soundscape project to record upland bird song and map the changes over the decades;

We've held early talks with the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

For further information, or if you are interested in potentially being part of any aspect of the project, please contact [darren@sup.org.uk](mailto:darren@sup.org.uk)

## *South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EAGLESINSOUTHERNSKIES/](https://www.facebook.com/eaglesinsouthernskies/)

### **Translocation and Eagles**

**Over the summer SSGEP successfully transported eight more golden eagle chicks** from the Scottish Highlands, Perthshire, Angus and the Islands to the south of Scotland. The new additions bring the total population of golden eagles in the south to around 46 – more than quadrupling the population since the start of the project and making this the highest number recorded in the area for three centuries.

In further significant news, analysis of tag data shows that up to 8 territories are being established across the south of Scotland. This includes Edward (C09, one of the first birds translocated by the project in 2018) and Iona (C24 who arrived in 2021 and was named by naturalist and TV presenter Iolo Williams), who are now paired up in a confidential location close to the town of Moffat, which will host the UK's only Eagle Festival between 22-24 September 2023. Iolo Williams is the 2023 Festival's keynote speaker, where he will talk on golden eagles and raptor conservation.



### **Summer Visitors**

The South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project works to reinforce the vulnerable population of golden eagles in the south of Scotland; vital conservation work ensuring the survival of this iconic apex predator in our southern skies. Reinforcing an understanding and appreciation of this species amongst communities and visitors is just as important.

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## *South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project contd.*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EAGLESINSOUTHERNSKIES/](https://www.facebook.com/eaglesinsouthernskies/)

Six years in to our project we have engaged thousands of people including many young people; the future guardians of our natural environment. This is why we jumped at the chance to host students from the Vancouver Waldorf High School on their International Service Trip during early summer of 2023.

Partnering with neighbouring conservation projects and working closely with students and teachers, we planned volunteering opportunities that would showcase the beautiful Southern Uplands and examples of crucial conservation work.

**Day 1** started with a project talk at SSGEP HQ followed by a guided walk with SSGEP Outreach Officers at Grey Mare's Tail, a site managed by the National Trust for Scotland. After a steep start, students were rewarded with breathtaking views of the waterfall and time at Loch Skene to appreciate the landscape including the towering summit of White Coomb.



**Days 2 and 3** were spent at the John Muir Trust site, Glenlude, where students worked their way through recently planted trees, assessing tree guards and providing maintenance where necessary.

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## *South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project contd.*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EAGLESINSOUTHERNSKIES/](https://www.facebook.com/eaglesinsouthernskies/)

We also took a walk around the site and learned of the gradual process of thinning out the commercial forestry and providing educational programmes for a diverse range of groups. Students also took part in a dry-stone workshop led by Neil Moffat from DryStone Work, creating circular stone tables and leaving their mark on the south of Scotland for hopefully many decades or even centuries to come.



**Day 4** was led by Borders Forest Trust who welcomed students to their Gameshope site to plant trees and remove redundant fencing whilst learning more about the Wild Heart Land restoration programme. The visit included an inspiring talk from Site Manager Andy, on the history of Scottish woodlands and the positive impact of restoring these habitats.

The students reported back on their trip with resounding positivity and memorable experiences but the highlight was undoubtedly spotting Shine (B44), an eagle released by the project in 2021, over Loch Skeen, encapsulating a memorable few days in the Southern Uplands.

## *Scottish Borders Construction Forum*

[HTTPS://SUP.ORG.UK/PROJECTS/SCOTTISH-BORDERS-CONSTRUCTION-FORUM/](https://sup.org.uk/projects/scottish-borders-construction-forum/)



**The Scottish Borders Construction Forum** was set up to discover how best to help and assist Borders Trades People, Local Businesses and Trade Suppliers (as individuals or collectively) to make more of the opportunities that the transition into energy efficiency and net zero will offer.

Find all the latest on the Scottish Borders Construction Forum, including the launch of the Scottish Borders Construction Trades Subsidy Scheme (funding training course fees and loss of earnings for 8 people to upskill in energy efficiency courses) in the most recent newsletter, available to download from:

<https://sup.org.uk/projects/scottish-borders-construction-forum/>

The next SBCF Newsletter is out in November.  
If you have a news item you'd like to include  
please email  
[bordersconstructionforum@gmail.com](mailto:bordersconstructionforum@gmail.com)



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Delivered by SUP

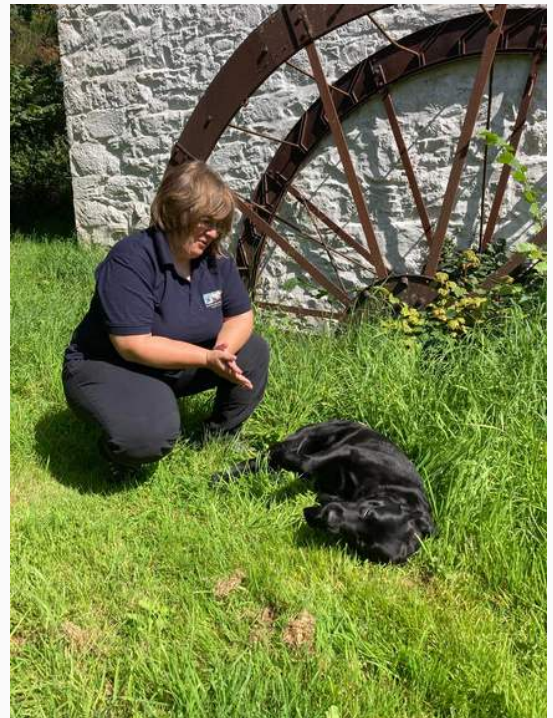


## *South West Scotland Coastal Way*

KATRINA DICK

**The end of June saw the departure of the project's first project officer, Richard Clarke.** Richard has been instrumental in taking the long-held wish for a coastal way along the north shore of the Solway, linking the King Charles III England Coast Path and the Ayrshire Coast Path closer to being accomplished. We would like to take this opportunity to extend a big thank you to Richard for all his hard work over the last 18 months and the progress he has made in making this a reality.

In July we held the interviews for a new Project Officer, and we are delighted to announce that Katrina Dick has recently started in post and is quickly finding her stride with all the different strands of the project. Katrina comes from a varied background including conservation work, community development and project management, both in Dumfries and Galloway and locations across Scotland. This has involved everything from visitor management engagement and invasive species control, to developing community planning tools. When not working Katrina can be found climbing hills or hiking in the woods with her Labrador, Splash.



Katrina and Splash – Splash was more interested in belly rubs than posing for photos!

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## *South West Scotland Coastal Way contd.*

KATRINA DICK

The route will be following and linking the Core Path network and the majority of the preferred route between Gretna through to Dalbeattie has been mapped. Conversations have been had with many of the landowners and Community Councils, with one or two gaps we are still trying to plug.

This project is being delivered in partnership with People's Project Dumfries and Dumfries and Galloway Council.



Some works have already started, including the removal of gorse bushes on the Sandyhills to Rockcliffe section with the help of the Criminal Justice Scheme. Other sections and actions in the planning stage have now received funding and are almost ready to go. Thank you to the following for their support:



For more information about the project please contact [katrina@sup.org.uk](mailto:katrina@sup.org.uk)

## *South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre*

[HTTPS://SWSEIC.ORG.UK/](https://swseic.org.uk/)

**The main news over the last few weeks is that we have increased our staff complement.** Malcolm Haddow started in July as Support Officer, with funding from the Holywood Trust and Dumfries and Galloway Council. Malcolm achieved a first class honours in BSc Wildlife and Conservation Management from SRUC and spent a year with the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere. Malcolm has already provided valuable assistance and will be helping lead activities for SWSEIC over the next year.



SWSEIC has been busy at many public events over the summer. In July we organised a community moth trapping session for the residents of Kirkgunzeon, where we have our office base. Further afield, we attended a community event at West Kilbride, the northernmost part of the SWSEIC area. We were invited by Propagate to the Land Workers Alliance AGM to deliver a wildlife recording workshop for regenerative farmers near St John's Town of Dalry. We have also been helping Kilsture Forest Community Group collect wildlife information for this site near Garlieston, which they will be managing in partnership with the owners, Forestry and Land Scotland, and we continue to assist with activities for Carsphairn Community Woodland.

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## *South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre*

[HTTPS://SWSEIC.ORG.UK/](https://swseic.org.uk/)



*Kirkgunzeon moth trapping*



*Land Workers Alliance AGM*



*Cairnsmore Bioblitz*

Several of the above activities were run in conjunction with the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, who also joined with us at public wildlife recording events at Cairnsmore of Fleet NNR (with NatureScot), Mull of Galloway (with RSPB), and Ochiltree (with East Ayrshire Leisure and Ayrshire Rivers Trust).



*Sea mammal watching at the Mull of Galloway*

There are reports from some of the above activities on the [blog on the SWSEIC website](#), where you can also [sign up to our newsletter](#) to keep in touch with future plans.

## *Talla Hartfell Wild Land Area*

DONALD GREIG

Filming has begun on the **Talla Hartfell Wild Land Area film** – photos show day one with Tom Hamilton from TCH Creative and SUP's Talla-Hartfell Wild Land Area Project Officer, Donald Greig.



Thanks to Olly Routledge at Selcoth Fish Farm, Idy Davidson and distillery owner Nick Bullard at Moffat Distillery, Moffat lads and Community Councillors Andrew Carlton and Ewan Bain, and Lesley Mason from Tweedsmuir Community Company for their participation. Day two of filming at Ettrick and Yarrow will follow before too long.





## *Red Squirrel Recovery Network (RSRN)*

[HTTPS://SUP.ORG.UK/PROJECTS/RED-SQUIRREL-RECOVERY-NETWORK-RSRN/](https://sup.org.uk/projects/red-squirrel-recovery-network-rsrn/)

**We are delighted to announce** that the Red Squirrel Recovery Network project, an ambitious cross-border red squirrel conservation initiative, has received development funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to progress plans for a 5-year project. The project is led by Northumberland Wildlife Trust, working in partnership with the Cumbrian Wildlife Trust, the Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside Wildlife Trust, The Southern Uplands Partnership and Knowsley Safari Foundation in Prescot in Merseyside.



*Red squirrel image: Sue Robinson/ Shutterstock*



Southern Uplands Partnership is very happy to be the partner organisation covering South Scotland in this project: the Scottish Borders, Dumfries and Galloway and South and East Ayrshire.

Made possible by National Lottery players, the project aims to protect and conserve populations of red squirrels in the north of England and southern Scotland. Development funding of £158,600 has been awarded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to help Northumberland Wildlife Trust and a team of partners progress their plans to apply for a full National Lottery grant at a later date.

More info at: <https://sup.org.uk/projects/red-squirrel-recovery-network-rsrn/>

We will be in touch with South Scotland groups and partners soon to confirm next steps!

If you are involved in red squirrel conservation in South Scotland or would like to be, please feel free to send contact details to me to be kept up to date as we progress ([katy@sup.org.uk](mailto:katy@sup.org.uk))

# *Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Company*

[WWW.DECBG.ORG.UK/](http://WWW.DECBG.ORG.UK/)

**The summer months have seen Jamie working** with local groups preparing applications for the end of July deadlines for both windfarm funds. The end result has been 15 applications to Ewe Hill 16 and a further 8 applications to Solwaybank. While it would be premature to go into a great deal of detail at this stage, the applications cover a wide range of projects including community hall improvements, community sports facility upgrades, arts projects, a community land buyout, school projects, a youth group and community health projects.



Jamie has been focusing some of his time on communities that have not submitted many applications in the past and has been working in Eastriggs, Dornock and Creca where there is no longer a functioning Community Council. As a result, three projects have come forward in the current round and a fourth is likely to be submitted to the January round.

Work with Lockerbie Ice Rink continues to develop a project to address the pressing issue of energy costs and improving income streams in the summer months to make the Ice Rink more financially secure. The Ice rink is a valuable community asset and has played a vital role in the sport of curling by producing numerous players who compete at national and international level.

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# *Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Company*

[WWW.DECBG.ORG.UK/](http://WWW.DECBG.ORG.UK/)

The current work has involved engaging with other recently renovated ice rinks across the UK to look at what steps have been most effective in reducing energy costs. Also, discussions have been held with external organisations to investigate the possibility of finding uses for the ice hall out of season to provide an income stream and to provide activities for youth, including employability skills.



In addition, Jamie has been working with two groups looking at securing land for community use. One, in Langholm, has resulted in an application to the current round, the other is at an earlier stage where the community in question is looking at different potential sites for land for a campervan overnight parking area.

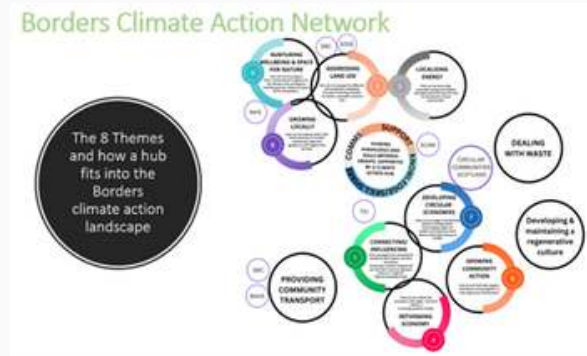
Following on from the successful funding workshop in Langholm, Jamie has engaged Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway with the aim of jointly running workshops in Gretna and Lockerbie in the coming months.

Current work involves assessing and providing comments on submitted applications in preparation for the upcoming decision-making meetings.

**Ewe Hill 16 and Solwaybank Community Benefit Funds are open again to applications, with a deadline of 31 January 2024.**

# *Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN)*

[HTTPS://SUP.ORG.UK/PROJECTS/SCOTTISH-BORDERS-CLIMATE-ACTION-NETWORK-SBCAN/](https://sup.org.uk/projects/scottish-borders-climate-action-network-sbcant/)



**Climate change concerns us all**, and there are many opportunities for communities to drive actions that will not only reduce our exposure to future losses and damages but also bring benefits here and now. Groups of interested people across the region have been working for some time to do what they can with projects on transport, energy, housing and food.

Many of these came together earlier in 2023 to explore how they might work better together and achieve greater impacts. At the end of the meeting, they committed to creating a Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN). A report on the Green Summit is available at this link: [Borders Climate Hub for circulation #3](#).

The ambition now is to reach out to and enable many more communities to act, make it easier to share ideas and experience, and ensure resources get channelled to where it matters most.

SBCAN has been awarded funding from Scottish Government to create 3 positions, initially for 6 months, but we expect this to be extended.

To get this initiative started, the project is being hosted by SUP which will employ staff and manage the budget while SBCAN becomes fully established.

Details on applying to these posts at: [Job Opportunities – 3 Posts with Scottish Borders Climate Action Network \(SBCAN\) | Southern Uplands Partnership \(sup.org.uk\)](#)



## *Southern Uplands Partnership Core Team Updates*

PIP TABOR / SHEILA ADAMS / KATY EWING / DARREN FLINT

### **Pip's news...**

**It has been as busy as ever in recent weeks, with some successful grant awards allowing projects to get going and other projects getting up to full speed.** It has been excellent seeing the Eagle project getting so much media coverage recently, the team should be really proud of what they have achieved. Hopefully it will be continuing for a few more years yet. The Connecting Threads team has also been flat-out over the summer attracting lots of interest at various points along the Tweed.

We are delighted to welcome Katrina to the SUP team as she takes up where Richard left the Coast Trail work and it also good to have Malcolm joining the SWSEIC team.

Squirrel work is returning to SUP after a break of many years and we are pleased to be part of a new partnership with Wildlife Trusts in Northern England. Our contract work with South of Scotland Enterprise, through SUP Services Ltd, on the Regional Land Use Framework has taken up a lot of time, but is taking shape. Look out for the public consultation on this later this year. And the Energy Efficiency Supply Chain work we have been involved with for the last couple of years has received additional support from the Shared Prosperity Fund so we will be able to take elements of that forward for another year. I am really excited at the start-up of the Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN), thanks to Scottish Government funding. You will see the jobs being advertised below.

I am looking forward to being able to step back and let Cara take on the challenge of SUP going forward when she starts in October. I am confident she will bring new energy and ideas to the Partnership. I hope to remain involved with some of the project work for a wee while yet.

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## *Southern Uplands Partnership Core Team Updates*

PIP TABOR / SHEILA ADAMS / KATY EWING / DARREN FLINT

### Sheila's news...

**Recruitment has been prominent again in the last quarter**, with the appointment of our new Chief Executive and also recruiting a new Project Officer for the South West Scotland Coastal Way project. The Scottish Borders Climate Action Network brings three new posts and there may well be more jobs to come in the near future as SUP expands and takes on more new, exciting projects. To help with capacity and the ever-growing workload, we are now recruiting for a Finance / Administrative Assistant: <https://sup.org.uk/job-opportunity-finance-admin-assistant/>.

I have also been supporting the new Connecting Threads team members, preparing quarterly grant claims for project funds, and making sure that everything financial is in order for the upcoming annual audit.

### Katy's news...

**Much of my time since the last newsletter** has been spent on getting fully up to speed on red squirrel conservation and the Red Squirrel Recovery Network project (see RSRN section above)!

I also put together SUP's Annual Report back in June <https://sup.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/SUP-Annual-Report-2022-23-Compressed.pdf>

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# *Southern Uplands Partnership Core Team Updates*

PIP TABOR / SHEILA ADAMS / KATY EWING / DARREN FLINT

## **Katy's news cont.**

... and I continue to liaise about the potential for a central organising point for environmental internships and work placements across South Scotland, including attending the excellent 'Galloway Glens Intern Programme: Overview + Findings' meeting at the end of June. Their very enlightening report on the programme can be read at: <https://gallowayglens.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Galloway-Glens-Intern-Programme-Overview-Findings-FINAL.pdf>

## **Darren's news...**

**Most of my news can be found within the project section** on the previous pages where much of my time has been spent on the South West Scotland Coastal Way and 'Undoing the Silence of the Southern Uplands' project.

In amongst this I've also been lucky enough to attend a few events. We took a stand to the Merlindale Nature Festival, which is an annual festival in Drumelzier, Scottish Borders, celebrating the natural world. It was a rather rainy summer's day but this didn't dampen anyone's spirits.



## EVENTS

### Moffat Golden Eagle Festival 22-24 September 2023:

The Moffat 2023 Golden Eagle Festival returns to Scotland's First and Only 'Eagle Town' this September with a fantastic line-up of guest speakers, guided walks, activities, food and drink and live music to celebrate the increasing Golden Eagle population in the South of Scotland.

Highlights include:

- TV presenter, conservationist and wildlife guide IOLO WILLIAMS following Gordon Buchanan as this year's key-note speaker and will appear, in person, at the Old Well Theatre on Saturday evening, joined by Ewan Miles of NatureScotland Wildlife Tours, based on the Isle of Mull.
- Jim Crumley, Scotland's leading wildlife author, presents a talk on his experiences with Scottish Golden Eagles and the stunning landscapes they occupy, dipping into his many wonderful books to share extracts of his work, joined by Professor Des Thompson (NatureScot) and raptor enthusiast Chris Rollie who will team up to deliver a talk on the incredible contribution made by the late Derek Ratcliffe to raptor conservation in the south of Scotland in a talk titled: 'Derek Ratcliffe - a raptor icon and conservation enigma'

Plus much, much more – see full programme at:

<https://www.goldeneaglessouthofscotland.co.uk/outreach/moffat-2023>



**FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER**



**SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER**



**SUNDAY 24th SEPTEMBER**



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### Finance / Administrative Assistant:

Due to expansion, the Southern Uplands Partnership (SUP) is seeking to employ a responsible, highly organised, self-motivated, Finance / Administrative Assistant to perform a variety of financial, administrative and clerical tasks to assist the Finance / Operations Manager in the smooth running of the organisation. You will have experience of working in a small but busy office environment. The post is part-time (3 days/wk) and SUP supports flexible working: <https://sup.org.uk/job-opportunity-finance-admin-assistant/>

More information on this award-winning charity is available on the website [www.sup.org.uk](http://www.sup.org.uk).

For more information on this post and how to apply, download an Application Pack from [Here – Application Pack \(PDF\)](#) or contact Sheila Adams at [sheila@sup.org.uk](mailto:sheila@sup.org.uk).

Download an Application Form – from [Here – Application Form \(Word\)](#).

**Closing date for applications is Monday, 18th September 2023 at 9.00 am, by email to [recruitment@sup.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@sup.org.uk). Interviews will be held w/b 25th September.**



## We are recruiting!

### Finance Admin Assistant

Part-time (3 days/wk) and SUP supports flexible working. More information on this award-winning charity is available on the website [www.sup.org.uk](http://www.sup.org.uk).

For more information on this post and how to apply, download an Application Pack from: <https://sup.org.uk/job-opportunity-finance-admin-assistant/>

**Closing date for applications is Monday, 18th September 2023 at 9.00 am**



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### Three Posts with Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN)

The Southern Uplands Partnership (SUP), on behalf of Scottish Borders Climate Action Network (SBCAN):

SBCAN has been awarded funding from Scottish Government to create 3 positions, initially for 6 months, but we expect this to be extended.

To get this initiative started, the project is being hosted by SUP which will employ staff and manage the budget while SBCAN becomes fully established.

More info about this project at: [Scottish Borders Climate Action Network \(SBCAN\) | Southern Uplands Partnership \(sup.org.uk\)](#)

Post Titles:

**Post 1. Project Co-ordinator / Developer**

**Post 2. Network Development Officer / Curator**

**Post 3. Communications Officer / Messenger or Narrator**

Location: These posts are a hybrid of home and office working. Postholders will be expected to work from the office when required. Hot desking space is available in SUP's office at Studio 2, Lindean Mill, Galashiels, TD1 3PE but the posts will cover the whole of Scottish Borders and therefore home or partner organisation bases may be more appropriate.

To apply for one of these positions, please download and complete the Application Form available here: [SUP Application Form – SBCAN](#)

Full job description: [SBCAN JD Final](#)

PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH POST YOU ARE APPLYING FOR

**Applications should be submitted by email to [recruitment@sup.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@sup.org.uk) by 9.00 am on 22nd September 2023**

Interviews will be held at Lindean Mill on 5th October

For an informal discussion, please email Pip Tabor [piptabor@sup.org.uk](mailto:piptabor@sup.org.uk) to arrange a convenient time to discuss.

## Become a Patron

AND SUPPORT ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN THIS NEWSLETTER

A big welcome to our newest Patron – Fred Olsen Renewables. To support our work, please do consider becoming a Patron and visit [www.sup.org.uk/support](http://www.sup.org.uk/support)

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### WHY BECOME A PATRON?

- be part of a strategic rural charity with 20+ years experience
- help communities make sustainable use of their natural and cultural heritage
- join a partnership that includes projects such as Tweed River Culture, the development of an 85-mile Solway trail, EV Recharge in Nature, Scottish Borders Construction Forum, a Wild Land Area and boosting the golden eagle population...

Email: [contactus@sup.org.uk](mailto:contactus@sup.org.uk)

### Our Current Patrons



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AND FINALLY...

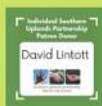
### And finally...

At the end of the first week of September, it seems that the swallows here are taking advantage of the continuing summer weather – by starting a very late third brood!

(Let's hope the season holds out a bit longer until they get up to full strength!)



#### Our Patrons



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