

southern uplands partnership
living land, living community

SUP NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025



Fly Agaric. Image credit: John Bridges

Hello and welcome to our September/October newsletter!

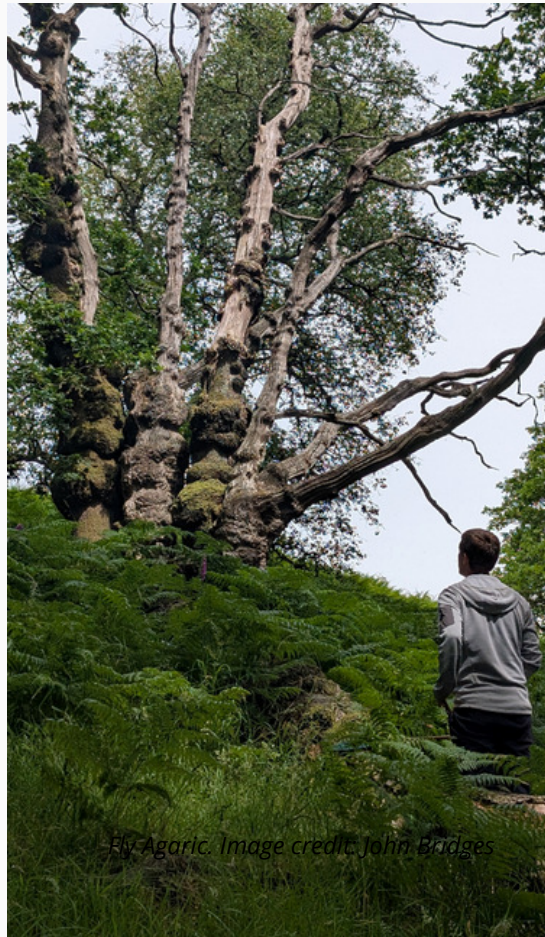
We hope you're enjoying a fruitful autumnal season so far. As we enter Scotland's Climate Week, this is a good moment to take stock and consider how we can lighten our footprint on the planet.

On a policy note, a reminder the consultations on the draft Land use and Agriculture Just Transition Plan (LAJTP) and Scotland's Fourth Land Use Strategy close on 5th October 2025 and all our members and stakeholders are encouraged to respond.

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

- [Nature Connection in Dumfries & Galloway and Ayrshire](#)
- [Announcing the Tweed River Festival: 31st October - 2nd November](#)
- [Bloom media: Young people in the Scottish Borders launch new short film](#)

Nature Connection in Dumfries & Galloway and Ayrshire



Fly Agaric. Image credit: John Bridges

Old oak at loch Lig. Image credit: SWSEIC

The South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (SWSEIC) team is slowing down ever so slightly after a busy summer season of outdoor events but there are still plenty of amazing opportunities to connect with nature through our work, particularly in South Ayrshire, thanks to funding from Carrick Futures.

On Sunday 26th October, we will be talking at Pinwherry about local wildlife and wildlife recording, including the highlights from the survey done at nearby Loch Lig (pictured) by volunteer wildlife recorders during the summer. We are also finalising details for a bat talk and walk and a fungi event in the Ballantrae area.

If you are interested in these please contact Malcolm Haddow at SWSEIC (mhaddow@swseic.org.uk) for further details.

Announcing the Tweed River Festival: 31st October - 2nd November



We're delighted to announce the inaugural Tweed River Festival, a new annual creative celebration of the River Tweed. This year, the festival will take place across multiple indoor and outdoor sites in Peebles in the Scottish Borders, on and alongside the River Tweed.

Join us for three days of river-focused creative activities responding to the theme of Watery Commons– from workshops, film screenings, music and performances, to drawing installations, readings, walks, talks, discussions and more. Full details and booking information for each event is here: https://www.tweedriverculture.org/journal/tweed-river-festival-2025-watery-commons_

Bloom media: Young people in the Scottish Borders launch new short film



The inspiring young people of Bloom Media in the Scottish Borders have produced a new short film, Arts, Culture and Us.

The ten-minute documentary explores why arts and culture matter, particularly in rural areas, the impact of local venue closures, and what young people want decision makers to understand. They even secured an interview with John Swinney!

The film was produced by the young people of Bloom Media and supported by CABN, Children and Youth Arts Advocacy (CYAA), Scottish Borders Youth Voice, Borders Book Festival and Southern Uplands Partnership.

You can watch the film on YouTube here: Bloom Media: Arts, Culture and Us

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



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