



SPRING/SUMMER  
2017

# What's on

Events and accessible activities... for all the family

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# The Park for People

Clyde Muirshiel is Scotland's largest Regional Park, it is The Park for People, we look forward to welcoming you and hope this guide inspires you to get out and active, enjoying the healthy fresh air and countryside on your doorstep.

## Our staff can:

- help and advise on where or what to do,
- ensure activities are 'Accessible to All', Castle Semple is Scotland's only Sailability Centre of Excellence,
- deliver a wide range of education topics from pre-school age to high school and beyond,
- provide information, coffee, cake and or ice-cream!



## Walk About a Bit



There are more than 66km of managed trails and tracks in the Regional Park offering opportunities for a walk, run or maybe a cycle on any day of the year. Some routes are sign posted, some are not, so remember your OS map. **Pick up a leaflet at a Visitor Centre or look online.**

## Bog Stomp



A countryside 10km (run or walk) on **Sunday 3rd September** starting and finishing at the Greenock Cut Visitor Centre, note the date and do a little training – you will enjoy it more. Details inside for online entry. **Go for it!**

## Tag-n-Track Wildlife



The project is funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, Greater Renfrewshire LEADER and Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park

In this exciting two year project we will be tagging and tracking lesser black-backed gulls that breed in the Park and following them as they undertake their annual migration to sunnier climes. Get involved with ringing demonstrations, volunteering, talks and workshops.

## Discover the Semple Trail



The Semple Trail Heritage Project links Howwood and Lochwinnoch – pick up a booklet about the history and heritage features or the 'Kids Passport' filled with fun things to do, identify and find along the trail, much of which is off road.



## Regular activities



### Monday Walks

Meet every Monday (except Public Holidays)  
**10.30am** (allow 1.5 hours)  
**McKillop Hall, Lochwinnoch**

### Bike Hire

A range of bikes including electric bikes and equipment hires are available at weekends and during school holidays at Castle Semple. **Contact Martin at RT Cycles on 07867 790 889 for details.**



### Outdoor Activities

These need to be organised in advance.  
All sailing and paddling course dates are online and can be booked online or get in contact to discuss group requirements for the autumn or 2018!

## April activities



### Sat 1 Apr Summer's Here!

Summer hours begin, enjoy the fresh air, stop for a coffee and or appreciate the beautiful countryside.  
**WHERE:** All Visitor Centres **until end of September**  
**WHEN:** Castle Semple 10am – 5pm daily  
Muirshiel and Greenock Cut  
11am – 4pm at weekends and public holidays

### Sat 1 & Sun 2 Apr Scottish Model Yacht Championships

Watch the International One Metre Yachting elite racing at the lochshore.  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 4pm approx  
**MORE INFO:** [www.caledoniasailing.com/tag-international-one-metre](http://www.caledoniasailing.com/tag-international-one-metre)

### Mon 3 – Fri 7 Apr or Mon 10 – Fri 14 Apr Junior Multi Activity Weeks

A full week of activities for 8-15 yr olds to get active, learn new skills and make new friends, on land and water! **Get 6 or more children together and book your own course.**  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**COST:** 5 full days £160  
**MORE INFO:** Look online or call 01505 842 882

### Sat 15 & Sun 16 Apr Sailability Spring Regatta

Lots of accessible sailing boats will be training on Saturday and racing on Sunday.  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10.30am – 4pm approx each day  
**MORE INFO:** Tel 01505 842 882

### Sat 15 & Sun 16 Apr Easter Entertainment

Drop in at any time to complete the self guided hunt for the Easter Bunny.  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple and Muirshiel  
**WHEN:** 11am – 3.30pm

### Sun 16 Apr Easter Egg Decorating and Rolling

Decorate an egg then rolling down one of Inverclyde's highest hills!  
**WHERE:** Greenock Cut Centre  
**WHEN:** 12.30pm – 3pm  
**COST:** £5 per child  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01475 521 458

### Sun 23 Apr Pedal the Park Road Sportive

A 100km open road sportive organised with Ride 63 Community Cycle Club, fund raising for CLIC Sargent. Help always welcome to marshal the route – please get in contact.  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** From 8am  
**COST:** £15 in advance  
**MORE INFO:** [www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk/events](http://www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk/events) & British Cycling online entry

### Sat 29 Apr Beach Watch

As part of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive help the Rangers & Greenock Conservation Volunteers record the sea debris.  
**WHERE:** Lunderston Bay  
**WHEN:** 11am – 1pm  
**MORE INFO:** Tel 01475 529 543 and bookings

## May activities



### Sat 6 & Sun 7 May Tag-n-Track Bird Ringing Demonstration

Find out how we Tag-n-Track some of the bird species in the Park.  
**WHERE:** Sat at Muirshiel Country Park  
Sun at Greenock Cut Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 4pm  
**MORE INFO:** Tel 01505 614 791 during office hours

### Sat 13 May Scottish Disability Sport Para Sport Celebration

Scotland's only Centre of Excellence for accessible sailing will be very busy today with limited car parking. Take away service only in the café.  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 4.30pm  
**MORE INFO:** [admin@scottishdisabilitysport.com](mailto:admin@scottishdisabilitysport.com) or tel 0131 317 1130

### Sat 13 & Sun 14 May Tag-n-Track on Show

Come along and meet the Tag-n-Track team, find out how we are tagging and tracking birds and what volunteering opportunities are available.  
**WHERE:** Sat at Kilmacollm Show  
Sun at Gourock Highland Games

### Sat 20 May Castle Semple Rowing Club Regatta

There will be lots of boats, not much car parking and plenty of spectator viewing.  
**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** All day  
**MORE INFO:** [www.castlesemplerc.co.uk](http://www.castlesemplerc.co.uk)

### Sun 21 May Waunder'ful Woods

An opportunity to waunder in our wonderful woods and see wildlife with **FREE** guided walks on geodiversity (1pm), woodland birds (1pm), Green Hairstreak butterflies (12.30pm), bird ringing plus 'Ask about Aspen', 'Meet the Moths' and a family friendly Wild-Cache activity.  
**WHERE:** Muirshiel Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 11am – 3pm  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book an activity or tel 01505 614 791 during office hours

### Sat 27 May Working with Wood

Make bat, bird or insect boxes or drop in and have a go at green woodworking.  
**WHERE:** Muirshiel Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 11am – 2.30pm  
**COST:** £5 per wildlife box  
**MORE INFO:** Look online or tel 01505 842 882







### Sat 3 June & Sat 10 June Tag-n-Track on Show

Come along and meet the Tag-n-Track team, find out how we are tagging and tracking birds and what volunteering opportunities are available.

**WHERE:** Sat 3rd June: Liliass Day, Kilbarchan  
Sat 10th June: Lochwinnoch Gala Day

### Sat 10 & Sun 11 June BCU 2 Star Training

Develop paddlesport skills in kayaks and canoes on flat water. Minimum age 16 yrs.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 4pm both days  
**COST:** £85  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book ASAP

### Sun 11 June

#### Tag-n-Track @ Hessilhead Open Day

The Park will be hosting regular ringing demonstrations.

**WHERE:** Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue  
Gateside, Nr Beith  
**WHEN:** 12pm – 4pm  
**MORE INFO:** Tel 01505 502 415

### Sat 14 June

#### Pound & Pace around Greenock Cut

The annual charity 12km walk around this historical aqueduct.

**WHERE:** Greenock Cut Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 11am – 2pm  
**DONATION:** £1 per person plus extra for raffle tickets!  
**MORE INFO:** Tel 01475 521 458

### Sun 18 June

#### Father's Day - Bushcraft Brunch

Learn how to make a fire and cook bannock bread then treat your Dad to a bushcraft brunch. (Bring your own bacon and sausages!)

**WHERE:** Greenock Cut Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 11am – 1pm  
**COST:** £5 per child (Fathers free with a paying child!)  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01475 521 458

### Sat 24 June

#### BCU 1 Star Training

An introductory course assessed in a kayak or a canoe. Minimum age 16 yrs.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 4pm  
**COST:** £70  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book ASAP

### Weekly in July Junior Multi-Activity Weeks

See Mon 3 April for details.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**COST:** 5 full days £160 or 5 half days £98  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book ASAP

### Mon 3, 10, 17 & Tues 4, 11, 18 July Dinghy Sailing Courses

2 day junior courses run on Mondays & Tuesdays – exact dates and course levels are online.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 3pm both days  
**COST:** £108  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book ASAP

### Wed 5, 12, 19, 26 July 2 & 9 Aug Wild on Wednesdays

Bushcraft, nature walks, tool work, minibeast safaris, bird box building, natural crafts. Different topic each week depending on the weather. Suitable for 5-11 yr olds.

**WHERE:** Greenock Cut Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 1pm – 3pm  
**COST:** £5 per person or £25 for a season ticket  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01475 521 458

### Every Thurs & Friday in July Paddle Sport Courses

2 day junior courses run on Thursdays & Fridays – exact dates and course levels are online.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 3pm both days  
**COST:** £80  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book ASAP

### Sat 8 & Sun 9 July Gallivanting with Gulls

Can you tell the difference between a lesser and a greater black-backed gull? If not join us for our gull ID walk.

**WHERE:** Saturday at Lunderston Bay  
Sunday at Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 1pm – 2.30pm  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book your free place or tel 01505 614 791 in office hours



### Sat 15 July Beach Watch

See Sat 29 April for info.

### Sat 29 July – Sun 6 Aug World Ranger Day Photo Display

It's 50 years since the Countryside Scotland Act and then the creation of the Scottish Countryside Ranger Service.

**WHERE:** Greenock Cut Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** Weekends  
**MORE INFO:** Look online or tel 01475 529 543

### Mon 31 July & Tues 1 Aug Rockpools

Come and guddle in the rockpools, starfish, butterfly and crabs galore await!

**WHERE:** Car Park, Hyndman Road Seamill  
**WHEN:** Mon 31st: 1pm – 2.30pm  
**WHERE:** Pencil Monument, Largs  
**WHEN:** Tues 1st: 1.30pm – 3pm  
**COST:** £5 a person  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01505 842 882

### Mon 7 – Sat 12 Aug Special Olympics Summer Games

The 10th National Summer Games take place in the city of Sheffield – look out for 'our' Castle Semple trained sailors.

### Sun 13 Aug Gulls, Glorious Gulls!

There's more to gulls than being chip thieves on wings.

The TnT team have been tagging them and will be needing your help keeping an eye out for them.  
**WHERE:** Fairlie Bay car park  
**WHEN:** 11am – 3pm  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01505 842 882

### Sat 19 Aug Walk About a Bit

The 10 mile off road walk from Paisley to Lochwinnoch is back! Refreshments & toilet break included.

**WHERE:** Canal Station Bar, Paisley  
**WHEN:** 9.15am registration 10am start



### Sat 2 & Sun 3 Sept Scottish Multi-Class Regatta

Get involved and sponsor your nearest school, accessible club or individual with additional support needs.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 3.30pm both days

### Sat 2 & Sun 3 Sept Doors Open Days: Tower Tours

Visit the ancestral homeland of the clan Sempill and get the best view of it from the Visitor Centre Tower.

**WHERE:** Castle Semple Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** 10am – 3pm anytime, regular tours  
**MORE INFO:** Look online or tel 01505 842 882

### Sun 3 Sept Bog Stomp

A 10km trail run with a donation to charity. Get on your nobby running shoes and enjoy fine views over the Clyde.

**WHERE:** Greenock Cut Visitor Centre  
**WHEN:** Registration from 9am, first wave 10am  
**COST:** £20  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01475 521 458



### Sat 9 Sept Greenock Cemetery Bat Walk

A popular walk seeking out the cemetery's nocturnal wildlife.

**WHERE:** Greenock Cemetery  
**WHEN:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm  
**COST:** £5 per person  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book or tel 01475 521 458

### Sat 16 Sept Tag-n-Track Bird Ringing Demonstration

Come along and find out how we Tag-n-Track birds.

**WHERE:** Muirshiel Country Park  
**WHEN:** 11am – 4pm  
**MORE INFO:** Look online or tel 01505 842 882

**Sat 16 Sept  
Great British Beach Clean**  
Help with the clean up and data recording.  
**WHERE:** Lunderston Bay  
**WHEN:** 11am onwards  
**MORE INFO:** Look online and book your free place or tel 01475 521 458

**Sat 23 & 24 Sept  
BCU 2 Star Training**  
See Sat 10 June for info.

## Dates for your diary



**Mon 16 – Fri 20 Oct**  
**Junior Multi Activity Week**  
Castle Semple

**Sun 22 Oct**  
**Classic & Custom Car Show**  
Castle Semple

## Volunteering



If you would like to get involved with conservation activities or countryside management, have fun and learn new skills you can! Full details of group and individual opportunities can be found online.

**Thursdays**  
12.30pm – 3.30pm  
Castle Semple

**Saturdays**  
10.30am – 2.30pm  
Greenock Cut

**Sundays**  
10am – 12pm  
Youth Group (14-18yr olds)  
Castle Semple

## Get in touch



**Castle Semple Visitor Centre**  
Lochlip Road  
Lochwinoch  
PA12 4EA  
Tel 01505 842 882

**Muirshiel Visitor Centre**  
Calder Glen  
PA12 4LB  
Tel 01505 842 803

**Greenock Cut Visitor Centre**  
Loch Thom  
PA16 9LX  
Tel 01475 521 458

**Lunderston Bay**  
Gourock  
PA19 1BB  
Tel 01475 521 458



### Please NOTE

- All events, walks and activities must be booked in advance unless otherwise stated.
- For walks and land based activities you should always have warm clothing, waterproofs, walking boots or sturdy shoes.
- For all water based activities bring a complete change of warm clothes including shoes and shower equipment.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult for all events and family fun sessions.
- Numbers can be limited and age restrictions apply for others - to avoid disappointment, always contact the Park in advance to check.

