



SPRING/SUMMER
2018

What's on

Events and accessible activities... for all the family

In this issue..

- **Conservation Blitz**
- **Clyde Muirshiel Walking Festival**
- **Tag-n-Track Wildlife**



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!



Conservation Blitz @ the Greenock Cut



The project is funded by



This exciting new project will include 12 in-depth and specialist events open to all, thanks to Awards for All and National Lottery Funding. The Greenock Cut Conservation Volunteers and the Rangers will team up to deliver these **FREE events** once a month throughout the year, **look out for the logo...**

Go Outdoors



There are more than 70km of trails in the Regional Park offering opportunities for a walk, a run or a cycle on any day of the year. Some routes are sign posted, some are not, so remember your OS map. Alternatively, if you would like to **walk in company** join us for the first **Clyde Muirshiel Walking Festival** at the end of May. More details online or pick up a leaflet at any of our Visitor Centres.

Tag-n-Track Wildlife



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

Now in its second year this exciting project follows Lesser Black-backed Gulls via tag and track technology. Some very interesting discoveries were made during their migration to sunnier climes. Which gull will make the return trip first? Get involved with ringing demonstrations, volunteering, talks and workshops.

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 of RT Cycles on 07867 790 889 for details.

Outdoor Activities

These need to be organised in advance. All sailing, paddling and navigation course dates are online and can be booked online or get in contact to discuss group requirements for the autumn or 2019!



March and April activities



Fri 30 Mar 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 & public holidays

Sat 31 Mar Habitat Boxes

Build your own bird house to take home.
WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN: 1pm – 3pm



Sat 31 Mar & Sun 1 Apr Easter Entertainment

Easter egg painting at Muirshiel Country Park and a drop in quiz along the Castle Semple lochshore.
WHERE: Castle Semple and Muirshiel
WHEN: 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Mon 2 – Fri 6 Apr or Mon 9 – Fri 13 Apr Junior Multi Activity Weeks

See Mon 2 July or look online for details.

Mon 2 & Tues 3 Apr RYA Dinghy Stage 1

Young sailors will have fun learning the basic skills of handling and steering a boat.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 10am – 3.30pm each day, £85

Sat 7 & Sun 8 Apr Bird Ringing Demonstration

Find out how we Tag-n-Track some of the Park birds.
WHERE: Muirshiel Country Park
WHEN: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Sun 8 Apr Map and Compass Course

Ideal for beginners or to refresh skills.
WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 10am – 4pm, £50

Mon 9 & Tues 10 Apr Paddlepower Passport - Juniors

Four progressive levels, there is plenty to do.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 10am – 3.30pm each day, £84

Wed 11 Apr School's Out Family Fun

Spring has sprung, have fun learning about our wildlife!
WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 1pm – 3pm

Thur 12 & Fri 13 Apr RYA Dinghy Stage 2 - Juniors

On completion of this course young sailors will be well on the way to being a confident small boat sailor.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 10am – 3.30pm each day, £85

April activities



Sat 14 & Sun 15 Apr RYA Dinghy Course Level 2

Adults can develop basic skills and become a competent sailor in light winds.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 9.30am – 4pm each day, £135



Sat 21 Apr Bumble Bee & Wildflower ID Walk

Join us on the shoreline and learn identification skills too.
WHERE: Lunderston Bay
WHEN: 10.30am – 12.30pm or 1pm – 3pm

Sun 22 Apr Pedal the Park Road Sportive

A 100km open road sportive organised with Ride 63 Community Cycle Club, fund raising for CLIC Sargent.
START/FINISH: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
COST: £20 in advance
MORE INFO: www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk/pedaltheperk

Sun 22 Apr Operation Outdoors

A celebration with activities, games and challenges on going outdoors responsibly. Includes Smoothie bike, Police Security Marking and Bike Health Checks.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 12pm – 3pm

Sat 28 Apr Scottish Model Yacht Championships

Watch the One Metre Yachts racing at the lochshore.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 10am – 4pm approx
MORE INFO: www.mya-uk.co.uk

Sat 28 April Beachwatch

Help collect and record the sea debris.
WHERE/WHEN: Lunderston Bay, 11am – 1pm

Sat 28 & Sun 29 Apr Sailability Spring Regatta

Accessible sail training on Sat, racing on Sun.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 10.30am – 4pm approx each day

For more details & bookings

Visit www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk

May activities



Fri 4 May Bat Walk at Castle Semple

An indoor introduction to bats followed by a leisurely walk to listen to these nocturnal hunters.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 8pm – 10pm, £5 per person

Sat 5 & Sun 6 May Paddlepower Passport & Discover

Choose your level and look online for details.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN/COST: 10am – 3.30pm each day, £84

Sat 5 & Sun 6 May Bird Ringing Demonstration

Find out how we Tag-n-Track some of the Park birds.
WHERE: Saturday - Muirshiel Country Park, 11am – 3.30pm
Sunday - Greenock Cut Visitor Centre, 11am – 3.30pm

Sat 12 May Castle Semple Rowing Club Regatta

One of the biggest rowing events in the Scottish calendar!
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
MORE INFO: www.castlesemplerc.co.uk

Sat 19 May Wheels to Water

Accessible activities like canoeing, rowing and cycling. Take away service only in the café, limited parking.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 10am – 3.30pm
MORE INFO: www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk/wheelstowater

25 & 26 or 27 & 28 May Junior Water Sports Training

Look online for details of the paddling and sailing courses.
WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre

Sat 26 – Mon 28 May Clyde Muirshiel Walking Festival

Join us for a walk in the Park! Walks are easy, moderate or strenuous. Some last 1 hour, some 4-6 hours.
WHERE: Park wide
WHEN: Strenuous 10am, moderate 11am, easy 11am or 2pm
MORE INFO: www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk/walkingfestival

Sat 26 May Moth Night

See what moths can be found and how to identify them.
WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN: 9.30pm until late.



June activities



Sun 3 June

Bird Ringing Demonstration

Find out how we Tag-n-Track some of the Park birds

WHERE: Muirshiel Country Park

WHEN: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Mondays 4 June – 30 July

Water Sports Taster Evenings

Join us for an easy introduction to kayaks, canoes or dinghies. Three week rotation for each activity.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN: 5.30pm – 7.30pm, £25

Sat 9 & Sun 10 June

RYA Dinghy Course Level 2

A two day adult sailing course, details as Sat 14 April.

Sun 10 June

Tag-n-Track @ Hessilhead Open Day

See regular ringing demonstrations throughout the day.

WHERE: Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue, Nr Beith

WHEN: 12pm – 4pm

Sun 10 June

Bumblebees & Butterflies

Learn about our native bumblebees and butterflies.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN: 1pm – 3pm

Wed 13 June

Pound & Pace the Greenock Cut

A 12km route along this historic aqueduct.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: 11am – 2pm

DONATION: £1 per person plus extra for raffle tickets!

Sat 16 & Sun 17 June

RYA Dinghy Course Level 2

A two day adult sailing course, details as Sat 14 April.

Sun 17 June

Map and Compass Course

Ideal course for beginners or to refresh skills.

See Sun 8 April for details.

Sun 17 June

Father's Day - Bushcraft Brunch

Make a fire and cook bannock bread and treat your Dad to brunch. (Bring your own bacon and sausages!)

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: 11am – 1pm, £5 per child (acc. Dad's free)

Sat 23 & Sun 24 June

RYA Dinghy Course Level 3 - Adults

Develop skills to be competent in moderate conditions.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: 9.30am – 4pm each day, £135

Thur 28 & Fri 29 June

RYA Dinghy Stage 1

See Mon 2 April for details.

Sat 30 June

BioBlitz Day

Come and try pond dipping, mini beast hunting,

I spy wildlife to name just some of the family friendly ecological activities on offer.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: 11am – 12.30pm or 1pm – 2.30pm



Summer holidays



Mon 2 – Fri 6 July

& every week until Fri 10 Aug

Junior Multi-Activity Weeks

A full week of activities for 8-15 yr olds to get active, learn new skills & make friends. Full and half days AM or PM sessions.

Get 6 or more children together & book your own course.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

COST: 5 FULL DAYS £160 or 5 HALF DAYS £98

Tues 10 Jul – Tues 7 Aug

Terrific Tuesdays!

Join the Countryside Rangers for some summer holiday outdoor fun, exact activities will depend on the weather on the day!!.....more details online.

Tues 10, 17 July, 7 August at Muirshiel Visitor Centre

Tues 24, 31 July at Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: 1 – 3pm, £5pp or £20 season ticket.

Two Day Junior Dinghy Sailing Courses

RYA courses - stage 1, 2 or 3 run over two consecutive days – exact dates and course levels are online.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: 10am – 3pm each day, £85

Two Day Junior Paddlepower Courses

BCU courses - Passport then Discovery run on consecutive days – exact dates and course levels are online.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: 10am – 3pm both days, £84

July & August activities

Sat 14 July

Beachwatch

Join us for a clean up and recording of the sea debris.

WHERE: Lunderston Bay

WHEN: 11am – 1pm

Fri 20 July

Pencil Pools

Investigate the rockpools with the Ranger Service.

WHERE: Pencil Monument, Largs.

WHEN/COST: 12pm – 1.30pm, £5 per person

Sat 21 July – Sun 26 Aug

Regional Park Ranger Display

We celebrate World Ranger Day on the 31 July with a worldwide photographic display.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: Weekends 11am – 4pm

Sat 28 July

Reptile Walk

Lets go reptile hunting! Find out about our local population and the reptile research project.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: 1pm – 3pm



Sat 11 Aug

Gallivanting with Gulls

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

WHERE: Lunderston Bay

WHEN: 1pm – 2.30pm

Sun 12 Aug

Gulls, Glorious Gulls!

Gulls are not just chip thieves on wings. The TnT team have been tagging them and will be tell you more.

WHERE: Fairlie Bay car park

WHEN: 11am – 3pm

Sat 18 & Sun 19 Aug

RYA Dinghy Course Level 2

See Sat 14 April for details.

Sat 25 Aug

Bat Walk

Learn more in this joint event with Clyde Bat Group.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: 7.45pm – 9.35pm



September activities



Sat 1 & Sun 2 Sept

RYA Powerboat Level 2

This training course gives you the skills to handle a rescue boat in a safe manner. Alternative dates online.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: 9.30am – 4pm each day, £150

Sat 1 & Sun 2 Sept

RYA Dinghy Course Level 3

See Sat 23 June for details.

Sun 2 Sept

Bog Stomp

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

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN/COST: Registration from 9am, £20



Sat 8 & Sun 9 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 Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN: 11am – 3pm anytime, regular tours

Sat 8 & Sun 9 Sept

Bird Ringing Demonstration

See Sat 5 May for details.

Sat 15 Sept

Great British Beach Clean

Join us for the annual big beach clean-up!

WHERE/WHEN: Lunderston Bay, 11am – 1pm

Sat 15 Sept

Greenock Cemetery Bat Walk

A popular annual seeking out the nocturnal wildlife.

WHERE: Greenock Cemetery

WHEN/COST: 7.30pm – 9.30pm, £5 per person



Sat 29 & Sun 30 Sept

Scottish Multi-Class Regatta

A legacy event of 'Race 2 the games' 2014. Get involved and sponsor or support your nearest school, accessible club or individual with additional support needs.

WHERE: Castle Sempie Visitor Centre

WHEN: 10am – 3.30pm both days

For more details & bookings

Visit www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk

Dates for your diary



Mon 15 – Fri 19 Oct
Junior Multi Activity Week
Castle Semple

Sun 21 Oct
Classic 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

- More details and bookings can be found online or contact a Regional Park Visitor Centre.
- 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.

Follow us on



www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk