



## Lucky Number 7

**Glasgow City Council has just bought a large area of Commonhead Moss in the northeast of Glasgow, giving local biodiversity a real boost! Now it is in Council ownership, work can go ahead to look after the rich habitats and wildlife there for people to visit and enjoy.**

Commonhead Moss is the largest remaining area of lowland raised bog in Glasgow and as such is of great value to wildlife. It's amazing to think that the deep peat there has slowly accumulated over literally thousands of years. If you look carefully while walking through the Moss you can find rare plants like Bog-rosemary. The Moss is also home to the locally rare Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary - in summer these

beautiful butterflies flit between the flowers, along with damselflies and large dragonflies which are feeding on other insects.

Dave Garner, Council Ecologist, explains 'Now that ownership has been secured for most of the site, we can begin to plan its future management for the conservation and enhancement of its wildlife. Later this year, we hope the site will be designated as our seventh Local Nature Reserve, which will be a real asset in the long term for the people of Glasgow.'

Watch this space for updates on what's happening at Commonhead Moss over the coming years.



Bog-rosemary



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary



Azure damselfly



Reed Bunting

### ...wildlife at Commonhead Moss

This purchase was made possible thanks to funding from Kelvin-Clyde Greenspace, Scottish Enterprise Glasgow, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Glasgow East Area Committee, as well as support from Glasgow City Council Land & Environmental Services and Development & Regeneration Services.



### Local Nature Reserves Leaflets

A series of leaflets about Glasgow's Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) has been produced to explain their importance and what kinds of wildlife and habitats you can expect to find when you visit them. The leaflets also have a map showing paths and access and details of public transport to get you there and back again. Pick up a leaflet from parks' visitor centres such as Pollok Country Park and Tollcross Park or from the Council's Land & Environmental Services reception at 37 High Street, Glasgow (first floor).

The leaflets were funded by Glasgow City Council and Scottish Natural Heritage

# All change for the birds (as well as other visitors) to Robroyston Park Local Nature Reserve

Over the past winter there have been a number of important changes to Robroyston Park Local Nature Reserve (LNR) that will help the breeding birds as well as helping people visiting the LNR to enjoy the wildlife.

Attractive new entrance walls have been built at Robroyston Road and Rockfield Road, using recycled materials - most of the sandstone came from the old Rotten Row Maternity Hospital. Signs have also been put up and hopefully they will attract people into the LNR and help guide them round it.

Art panels on the main wall were designed by local school children working with a local artist to stimulate ideas. Over one hundred pupils then enjoyed a Biodiversity Day in the Reserve where they met the Council's Countryside Rangers and Kelvin Clyde Greenspace staff to explore the wildlife and help plant a hawthorn hedge which adds to the biodiversity.

Repairs to the sluice and creation of three ponds in the wetland area will now enable more birds to visit the



New entrance walls at Robroyston Park LNR

wetland. The new ponds should attract more breeding waterfowl in the summer and the sluice will allow water levels to be lowered in the autumn. This creates shallow mud flats that bring in wading birds probing for food.

An interpretation panel has been erected on a stone cairn near the southern pond showing the wildlife you can expect to see there. It shows just how rich and complex the pond life is at Robroyston!

Keep an eye out for further positive works planned for the future to help improve visitor understanding and access through your Local Nature Reserve.

The development works were funded by Glasgow City Council and Scottish Natural Heritage, (working in partnership with Kelvin Clyde Greenspace to create the entrance walls). For information about this project and Robroyston Park LNR generally, contact Dave Garner, Council Ecologist at: [david.garner@ls.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:david.garner@ls.glasgow.gov.uk).



Robroyston Wetland

## Scarlet Elf Cup

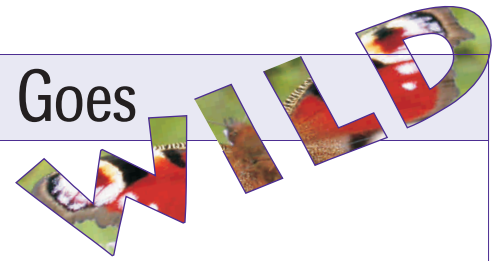
This vibrant crimson fungus has been seen at a variety of sites in Glasgow this spring. It grows on dead wood in damp, mossy places. If you find interesting wildlife, you can send your records to:



The Glasgow Museums Biological Records Centre  
Glasgow Museums Resource Centre  
200 Woodhead Road,  
South Nitshill Industrial Estate  
Glasgow  
G53 7NN  
Or Email: [biological.records@csglasgow.org](mailto:biological.records@csglasgow.org)

Remember to include the date and site name, including if possible a grid reference.

# Park, Pond and Peacocks - Kelvingrove Goes



Kelvingrove is a historic formal park but is surprisingly rich in wildlife partly because of the River Kelvin flowing through it.

Hundreds of volunteers signed up to help with planting during the very successful and busy BBC Breathing Places Event held at Kelvingrove Park in June 2007. This hard work was rewarded by the areas of the park being improved for wildlife, and also looking very attractive.



Butterfly Garden

Wildflower meadows were created in two areas; the old pitch and putt course and the slopes below Glasgow University. Woodland flowers were also planted on the slopes below Park Terrace. The water level of the pond was lowered so shallow areas could be built below normal water level. These were planted up with a variety

of water plants to provide shelter and food for birds (especially ducklings).

To encourage butterflies to breed, a butterfly garden was created at the west end of the herbaceous border. This was planted with plants to provide nectar for as long a period as possible and also those important as food plants of the caterpillars of several species of butterfly. It is perhaps an unusual choice to plant but the common nettle was added (in the corners out of reach!) as it is the food plant for Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Red Admiral butterflies.

This year the work continues. The plan is to increase the area of wildflower meadow. At the pond, another shallow area has been added and the thicker plant growth on the island has been thinned out. The island itself has been seeded with a woodland wildflower mix including native bluebells. A group of volunteers from BTCV and CSV have carried out work at the butterfly garden, weeding out unwanted plants and replanting seedlings.

With thanks to Scottish Natural Heritage who part-funded the pond works.



## Do Your Bit For Biodiversity

Would you like to get involved in helping your local wildlife? You could send in wildlife records, carry out surveys, get some exercise by doing practical conservation work or just keep a watchful eye on your local patch (contact the Biodiversity Officer for more information).

Meanwhile, volunteers with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) have been doing their bit for habitats in Glasgow – woodlands, grasslands and wetlands. By helping the habitats, lots of animals and plants benefit too. Here's what's been happening:

**Woodlands:** the City Woodland Unit has been awarded Forestry Commission grants to enable rehabilitation work at a number of neglected woodlands. The work has involved clearing of rubbish and debris, control of invasive species and safety work on dangerous trees. New plantations are undergoing thinning work and ground flora planting to aid the development of the woodland ecosystem.

**Grasslands:** following the removal of invasive scrub and tall herbs, trial management plots have been established at old but now unmanaged grasslands in order to restore their botanical diversity, which in turn will help associated wildlife. Meadow management and creation is now being carried out in local parks.

**Wetlands:** further pond naturalisation work has helped to rejuvenate water bodies, increasing plantlife, insects, breeding birds and resulting in cleaner water with reduced algal blooms. The removal of invasive scrub and the damming of drains are helping to restore ancient peat bogs in the northeast of the city.

# Moths Count at Glasgow Botanic Gardens - Make Them Count All Over Glasgow!



The Moths Count Glasgow event (see below for dates and times) is organised in partnership with Butterfly Conservation as part of its exciting new Moths Count project ([www.mothscount.org](http://www.mothscount.org)), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and other donors. The project aims to show people how interesting, varied and colourful moths really are.

This event will show you how easy it is to find moths, and the amazing variety that can be seen in just an hour or so. You will also be given an information pack to show you simple ways to find moths in your own garden, help you to identify the different types, and learn more about the fascinating world of this "backyard wildlife".

## Events

BBC Springwatch 2008  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 11.00-15.00  
Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve



As part of the BBC's Breathing Places Campaign, Glasgow City Council is hosting this free event for all the family. This is the finale of a Year of Action to help make Glasgow a greener city by getting everyone to Do One Thing for wildlife. This is your chance to make a difference.

There will be a range of activities and entertainment on the day: Guided walks to discover a wealth of hidden wildlife, wildflower planting to create new wildlife havens, demonstrations of traditional crafts. And much, much more...

To find out more visit [www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces](http://www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces) and [www.glasgow.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/biodiversity).  
Or call 0141 287 7026.

### Local Nature Reserve Celebrations:

Dawsholm Park LNR Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 13.00-15.30  
(contact 0141 287 5087)  
Robroyston Park LNR Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 12.00-15.00  
(contact 0141 276 0931)  
Garscadden Woods LNR Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 10.00-15.00  
(contact 0141 276 0924)

So come along and get out and about at a Local Nature Reserve on your doorstep this spring.

**Scottish Biodiversity Week:** Have a 'Daisy' Day  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 12.30-15.30 at New Carmunnock  
Cemetery, Castlemilk (contact 0141 287 7026)



### Moths Count:



Glasgow Botanic Gardens Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 21.30-23.00,  
followed on by Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 10.00-12.00 to see  
which moths have been trapped overnight.

The LBAP is supported by the following organisations



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## NEWS, VIEWS, OPINIONS - Write to the Biodiversity Officers

The Biodiversity Officers, Carol MacLean, Keith Watson and Cath Scott can be contacted at:  
**Land and Environmental Services**  
Glasgow City Council  
37 High Street  
Glasgow G1 1LX

Email:  
[carol.maclean@land.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:carol.maclean@land.glasgow.gov.uk)  
[keith.watson@land.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:keith.watson@land.glasgow.gov.uk)  
[catherine.scott@land.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.scott@land.glasgow.gov.uk)

Phone:  
0141 287 5665/7026

Further information is available on the Council's website:  
**[www.glasgow.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/biodiversity)**

