



Winter walkers in woodland – "Neil Stevenson"



Green hairstreak butterfly – "Mandy Glass"

Dates for your Diary

Build a Birch Broom - Harry Potter Style!

Friday 11 October 1pm - 3pm Free

Birch trees are being removed from Lenzie Moss to help the bog areas become boggy again. So let's put the birch to good use and make a broom to fly to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Join in anytime, the Ranger Service and Friends of Lenzie Moss will be there to assist you. Follow the signs from the Moss end of Lenzie Railway Station car park.

Get Your Hands Dirty - Conservation

Saturday 18 October	10.45am - 12pm
Saturday 15 November	10.45am - 12pm
Saturday 20 December	10.45am - 12pm
Saturday 17 January	10.45am - 12pm
Saturday 21 February	10.45am - 12pm
Saturday 21 March	10.45am - 12pm
Free	

Have fun, get fit, enjoy a day out in the fresh air and enhance the biodiversity of Lenzie Moss. Wear wellies. Follow signs from the Moss end of Lenzie Railway Station car park. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Christmas Birch Wreaths

Saturday 13 December 2pm - 3.30pm Free
Cut back the invading birch trees from Lenzie Moss and use the twigs to make your own wreath for the front door. Follow the signs from the Moss end of Lenzie railway station car park to meet the ranger on the boardwalk.

For further information contact:

East Dunbartonshire & Mugdock Country Park Ranger Service
Tel: 0141 956 6586
Email: rangers@mugdock.org

Membership

We are very grateful for your support, which is vital to us in our work of protecting this outstanding local greenspace; so please continue your membership, and persuade others to become Friends of Lenzie Moss too.

Annual Membership fees are:

- **Single, retired or unwaged £7.00**
- **Family £12.00**

Subscriptions cover the year April 1 to March 31 the following year (a reduced fee applies for anyone joining mid-year). For this you will receive twice-yearly Newsletters, and will be kept informed of events and activities concerning the Moss.

Committee Members

- Chairperson:** Christine Morrison
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- Secretary:** Kate Sanford
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To place an article on our web page or Newsletter please contact Anna Illingworth (see above) in the first instance.

friends of Lenzie Moss

Summer 2014

The Friends of Lenzie Moss is a voluntary association dedicated to conserving the Moss for the benefit of present and future generations by all possible means: through education, liaison with official bodies, and appropriate environmental management.



John Muir Way Project

John Muir was a Scottish-born pioneer of nature conservation in America, where he was instrumental in safeguarding wilderness areas and forests, also realising the importance of "half-wild parks and gardens".

Lenzie Moss being a prime example of a protected wild place, and close to the John Muir Way, Scottish Natural Heritage awarded FoLM a grant to run a project as part of their celebration of the first John Muir Festival, and the opening of the John Muir Way on April 21.

The theme of the project was 24 hours on Lenzie Moss. Ranger-led walks at dawn and dusk were busy with both local people and others new to the LNR, who enjoyed the wildlife and being informed about the conservation work.

Two photographic activities took place:

1) we advertised widely asking for photos and experiences of Lenzie Moss. Over 100 photos were received! These were displayed at our AGM, and can be viewed from a link on our website, www.friendsoflenziemoss.org.uk.

2) with the grant we bought a night vision wildlife camera, to capture the nocturnal inhabitants of the Moss.

All these fantastic photos merited the widest possible audience, so we were lucky to receive a further grant, from EDC's Community Grants Scheme, for portable display boards. We intend to exhibit these in local schools, community hubs, and at local events.

We thank Scottish Natural Heritage and the Community Grants Scheme for funding this project.

For full text and all photos see:
www.friendsoflenziemoss.org.uk

*Pictures: Deer in snow – "Joyce Martin"
Boardwalk and seat – "Olivia Gibson"
Pooling on Moss – "Irene Henery"
Solitary birch – "William Whitelaw"
More photos on page four.*

Highlights from AGM 11 June 2014

Chair Report 2013 - 14: summary

Sites proposed for housing adjacent to Lenzie Moss: according to the current status of the Local Development Plan, East Dunbartonshire Council proposes not to include the sites on Lenzie Rugby Club land nor at the top of Heather Drive and Boghead Road, and to restrict the site at Blackthorn Grove to the hard standing where the old garages were located. FoLM wrote to the Council supporting their decision. The draft Local Plan will be available in April 2015 and FoLM will continue to monitor the position.

There are possible implications for Lenzie Moss of a proposal for housing near Crosshill Road, situated on or adjacent to the section of the Moss south of the railway. Also, the new school at Lenzie Moss Primary is to be built on the existing playing field. It has been noted by the developers that the hydrology of the site would have to be checked in view of the vulnerability of the Moss to development. We will be keeping an eye on both these matters.

In March, two of us held a stall at a **volunteering roadshow** at Lenzie Academy. It was a good opportunity to introduce FoLM to the school and pupils, and hopefully to gain some young volunteers.

Thanks are due to a wide variety of people for their invaluable work for Lenzie Moss, including: Fiona Burns and the Ranger Service, the Conservation Volunteers, Jackie Gillespie (EDC Neighbourhood Services Strategy Officer), George Paterson for improving our website, the FoLM committee members, and not least, those users of the Moss who regularly pick up litter.

Report from East Dunbartonshire Council Neighbourhood Services Strategy Officer (Jackie Gillespie) 2013-14: summary

Dams and boardwalk. Additional dams have been installed to retain water in the main peat bog, and walrags added to monitor the water depth. These were funded in part by the Green Stimulus Fund, administered by Scottish Natural Heritage and East Dunbartonshire Council. Early indications are that sphagnum moss (very important for holding water in the bog) is already regenerating around these dams. Other works completed include boardwalk repairs, fitting of wire mesh to improve grip, and a peat depth survey. Further grants are being applied for to enable scrub removal in the woodlands to the north and south sides of the Moss, and to construct more dams.

Butterflies. Marsh violet and marsh thistle have been planted, to try and attract fritillary butterflies. There have been welcome sightings of green hairstreak butterflies on the Moss, which contains the special habitat required for these rare creatures.

East Dunbartonshire & Mugdock Country Park Ranger Service Report 2013-2014: summary

Activities: A total of 72 Conservation Volunteers attended over six sessions, to remove birch scrub, maintain and repair paths, and do other related works. Other volunteers on the Moss include some from various companies, the Duke of Edinburgh trainees, New Caledonian Woodlands, Community Justice, and the Mugdock volunteers. The next task will be removal of birch in the grassland area.

Schools continue to work with the Rangers, on such projects as a minibeast study, a water quality survey, and health walks.

Events: These included bug hunts, broom- and Christmas garland-making, and walks at dusk and dawn. A camera trap has been running as part of the John Muir photography event.

Thanks are due to FoLM for their support with activities and securing grants.

AGM talk by guest speaker David Shenton

David's talk was in two parts.

First, as Convener of the Management Group for Loch Ardinning wildlife reserve, he gave a very informative talk on the history of the site, the flora and fauna found on the reserve, and activities that can be enjoyed by visitors. David gave examples of what can be seen for those interested in butterflies, pond life, wetlands, scenery (with views to Ben Lomond and beyond), wild flowers, grassland, woodlands, bird watching and spotting various mammals such as roe deer.

Secondly, David gave an update on the Millersneuk Wetlands. The site is a candidate LNR, on the eastern side of the new link road. There are many breeding birds, as well as wintering wildfowl. There are water voles and otters, and unfortunately mink that are taking water voles. Visitors may access the site via Burnbrae Road, where there is a car parking space. Once on the site, a bird hide has been erected and further tree screening has been planted. Volunteers are needed for help with recording wildlife, maintaining records, and producing a management plan. Any interested parties should contact the FoLM committee who will pass on their details to David.



Millersneuk Wetlands – map of location



Millersneuk Wetlands – new trees by hide

See full reports on our website

www.friendsoflenziemoss.org.uk
or contact a committee member for a hard copy.