

FCCT VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

December 2025

A very warm welcome to the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust Winter 2025 Volunteer Newsletter, which celebrates the contribution volunteers make to the Trust's work.

Meg Moore

Volunteer Co-ordinator

Volunteers in action

It has been another busy year for our Volunteers who as always make a significant contribution to many FCCT projects. They generously give their time to help with activities, sometimes in challenging locations and often braving the Scottish weather to support the Trust.

For year ending 31st March 2025, Volunteers contributed a total of 2734 hours. FCCT Volunteers contributed 1183 hours, Community Groups 547 hours and Corporate Groups 1004 hours.

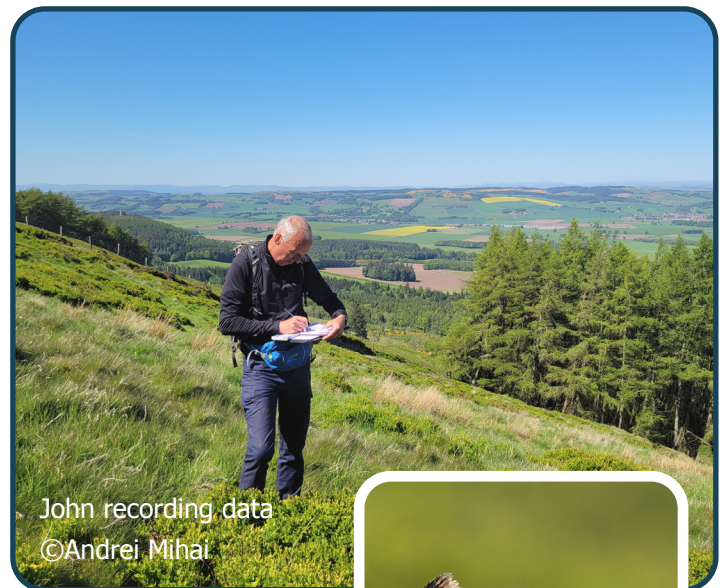
Birnie and Gaddon Lochs, once sand and gravel quarries, are now a wonderful home to a huge number of birds, plants and wildlife. Our Volunteers have joined our Conservation Team to carry out woodland management activities to help maintain this popular site, and protect the wildlife that calls it home.

Recently Volunteers came together to complete a fencing project at Pettycur Bay Beach. This project helps protect the integrity of the sand dunes and will stop erosion due to people accessing the dunes, while providing an undisturbed space for wildlife.

The fencing also helps the build up of wind-blown sand which is colonised by dune specific plant species such as marram grass, increasing the habitat size and building up the beach height, making the site more resilient to any storm damage that may occur. A great project and our Volunteers were very supportive of this project.

Moorland Bird Survey

The Conservation Team asked Volunteers to get involved in a Moorland Bird Survey on the Lomond Hills Regional Park in May and July. After receiving training on bird identification, they then conducted early morning surveys over several days, gathering important statistics and monitoring birds across the regional park. We hope to continue the survey in future years to identify trends and how wildlife is changing over time and our Volunteers will play a vital role in the project. Read more in the blog section of our website.



John recording data
©Andrei Mihai



**FIFE COAST &
COUNTRYSIDE TRUST**



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FCCT Events**

Would you like to tell us about your volunteering journey? We would be delighted to share your story in the next edition of the FCCT Volunteer Newsletter.

Here are just a few examples of recent volunteering activities carried out by a range of groups. We couldn't achieve all that we do without the support of our dedicated Volunteers.

Corporate Volunteering

Our corporate partners are very supportive of the work FCCT do and can be relied upon to get involved with a range of conservation activities. Optos staff recently volunteered to plant trees at Lochgelly Park with our Community Engagement Manager (Fife Climate Forest). They planted 16 standard trees and many whips. We are very grateful for their support, and this project has made a huge difference to this area.



Optos Volunteers

Babcock employees volunteered earlier this year by getting involved in tree care activities in the Lomond Hills Regional Park. The trees had been planted some time ago and required a health check to ensure that they are thriving. This is a valuable project to get involved with and Babcock staff had a great day working in the spectacular Lomond Hills.



Babcock Volunteers

Throughout the year many corporate groups have been involved with litter picks. These days are so important to help with the fight against litter on our beautiful beaches and countryside.

Victoria Hospital Gardens

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust volunteers are helping to deliver a patient and staff garden at NHS Fife's, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy. They planted up containers, to create a garden where staff, patients and visitors can spend time relaxing in nature.

Two of FCCT's Volunteers have now registered as volunteers with NHS Fife, so they can look after two gardens within the Victoria Hospital estate. It is a valuable project to be involved with and staff and patients are appreciative of their efforts.



Ten Years

Two volunteers recently celebrated ten years of volunteering with FCCT. Susan and George have committed many volunteering hours to the Trust over the years. They have enjoyed many different activities and learned about Fife's wildlife, conservation activities, countryside and coastal habitats. Their service was recognised with the presentation of goodie bags including an FCCT hat, which Susan and George can be seen modelling.

