



Countryside Events July 2010

Rangers welcome visitors to the countryside and help people discover and appreciate what's around them. Rangers run a variety of countryside events that encourage people to learn about the National Park. A sample of this month's free events is listed below. A full list of events can be found on www.cairngorms.co.uk or ask at your accommodation, local Tourist Information Centre or ranger base.

Every Monday 2.00pm-4.00pm THE MAGICAL MARSHES

Have fun discovering the amazing wildlife of Insh Marshes. We'll play nature games, look for minibeasts and other wildlife, and make crafty creatures.

Contact number 01540 661518

Meet at RSPB reserve car park 2 miles along the B970 from Kingussie and ½ mile beyond Ruthven Barracks.

Free

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, For families with primary-school-age children.

1st and 3rd Monday each month during July and August.

2:00-4:00pm

BALMORAL CHILDRENS EVENTS.

Join the Rangers on the 1st and 3rd Monday each month during July and August, for exciting nature activities and games. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Meeting point: Spittal of Glen Muick Visitor Centre.

Dates: 5th & 19th of July, 2nd & 16th August.

Cost: Free.

Booking Essential– 013397 55059.

Every Tuesday 10.00 -11.30am

Guided walk with the ranger to learn about the history and wildlife of Abernethy's ancient Caledonian pine forest. U16 accompanied by adult.

Booking essential 01479 821565

Explore Abernethy Centre, Nethy Bridge

Donations please

Explore Abernethy Ranger Service, Easy Walk

Every Tuesday 10am –1.00pm

WOODS TO WATER – AN INSIGHT INTO INSH MARSHES NNR

Join RSPB staff to explore the reserve and see the birds, flowers and insects of this very special site.

Contact number 01540 661518

Meet at RSPB reserve car park 2 miles along the B970 from Kingussie and ½ mile beyond Ruthven Barracks.

£2 Adults (RSPB members) £5 Adults (non- members) Children Free (under 16)

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Be prepared for wet/cold weather.

Every Wednesday from April 7th to July 28th

2:00-4:00PM

BALMORAL WOODLANDS WALK.

Discover the grounds and woods around Balmoral Castle. Learn about the estates history and wildlife. Distance 4Kms, ascent 130m. Meeting point: Balmoral Carriage Exhibition.

Balmoral Ranger Service

Cost: Free once entry fee into grounds has been paid.

Every Thursday

2.00pm-4.00pm

GUIDE IN THE HIDE

Drop in to Insh Marshes where we'll be on hand to help show you wildlife and talk about the reserve.

Contact number 01540 661518

Information viewpoint, Insh Marshes, 2 miles along the B970 from Kingussie and ½ mile beyond Ruthven Barracks.

Free

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, High powered optics will be in the hide to help you spot the wildlife.

Every Thursday in July

7.00 - 8.30pm

A WALK IN THE PARKS

An evening stroll in the grounds around the Lodge, and a chance to view the magnificent Stag Ballroom. U-16 with an adult

Booking Essential – 0844 493 2173

Mar Lodge Estate, nr. Braemar

Adults £2.50 U-16 Free

National Trust for Scotland. Sorry no dogs

Every Sunday

2.00- 4.00pm

Guided walk with the ranger to learn about the history and wildlife of Abernethy's ancient Caledonian pine forest. Children U16 accompanied by adult.

Booking essential 01479 821565

Explore Abernethy Centre, Nethy Bridge

Donations please

Explore Abernethy Ranger Service, Easy Walk



July 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28

10.00 am – 2.00 pm GUIDED CAIRN GORM SUMMIT WALK

Join an experienced Ranger for a fascinating walk to the top of the sixth highest peak in Scotland. Start at the Ranger Base at 635m and climb by steep and steady paths to the summit cairn at 1245m. Exact return time will depend on the route and preference of the walkers. The walk will also visit the Ptarmigan, Britain's highest restaurant, and participants will be able to take the train down. Children 10 -16 yrs with adult.

Booking recommended 01479 861341

Cairngorm near Aviemore

Family ticket £29, Adults £12, Children (10-16 yrs) £6, Concessions and Friends £8

July 1st 10.30am – 12.00pm SQUIRRELTASTIC

Kids' event. Find out more about our treetop friends.

Glen Tilt Car Park, by Blair Atholl. 1 mile north of Blair Atholl on road to Old Blair.

Charge: Children £1.00.

Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 1st 11.00 – 1.00 pm WILD IN THE WOODS (Family Fun)

Come and have fun in the woods. Join us for some environmental activities and discover woodland wildlife.

No need to book. Phone 01478 861220 for info

Meet at Glenmore Visitor Centre Car Park

Free event

Forestry Commission Scotland. U16 with an adult

July 3rd 9:30-5:00pm LOCHNAGAR ASCENT.

Enjoy a full day on one of Scotland's highest peak, looking at the natural history and management of 'Dark Lochnagar'. A full mountain day. Hill-walking gear and a good level of fitness required. Meeting point: Spittal of Glen Muick visitor centre. Distance: 19Kms, ascent 1050m.

Cost: £10/person.

Booking essential– 013397 55059.

Balmoral Ranger Service

July 3rd 1.00 - 5.00pm MYTHS AND LEGENDS AROUND BRAEMAR

Truth or Fiction!? Fascinating stories from the past on this six mile hill walk – with views of the Cairngorms. U-16 with an adult

Booking Essential – 0844 493 2173

Mar Lodge Estate, nr. Braemar

Adults £5 U-16 £2.50

National Trust for Scotland. Sorry no dogs

July 4th 10.00am – 4.00pm OPEN DAY EVENT

Family day out. Join us to meet the staff and see displays of the Trust's work on this Highland Estate. Demonstrations and children's activities.

Mar Lodge Estate, nr. Braemar

Free entry to grounds. Admission to Lodge £3. NTS members and U-16 Free

National Trust for Scotland.



July 6th 2.00 – 3.30pm EXPLORE GLEN FENDER MEADOW 1

A glorious meadow with wild flowers, butterflies and bumblebees. Come and see what we can see today and maybe record some new species. May be rough and wet underfoot.

Follow signs from opposite Tilt Hotel

Charge: £2

Atholl Estates

July 6th 10.00am - 5.00pm DON'T GET LOST! AN INTRO TO MAP & COMPASS.

An indoor session led by a qualified mountain leader, followed by a walk in Cairngorm scenery to put your new skills into practice. U-16 with an adult

Booking Essential – 0844 493 2173

Mar Lodge Estate, nr. Braemar

Adults £12. U-16 £6

National Trust for Scotland. Bring Lunch Sorry no dogs

July 7th 2pm – 3.30pm MEET THE GRUFFALO, CARRBRIDGE

A mouse took a walk in the deep dark woods....can you be like the mouse and follow the trail to find the Gruffalo? This event is most suitable for families with children under the age of 8.

Meet at the main carpark in Ellan Wood, Carrbridge. 01479 873 914

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Path suitable for prams and buggies with big wheels only.

Adults £3, concessions & children £2

Highland Council Countryside Rangers, flatish ground

July 8th 10.30am – 12.00pm MINIBEAST MAGIC

Kids' event. We look for bugs and beasties in their mini worlds.

Atholl Estates Information Centre, Blair Atholl

Charge: £1.00 per child.

Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 9th 2:00-4:00pm WILDFLOWER WANDER.

Identify the wonderful array of wild flowers in Glen Muick and learn more about their habitat and uses. Organised to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity.

Meeting point: Spittal of Glen Muick visitor centre.

Cost: Free.

Booking essential – 013397 55059.

Balmoral Ranger Service

July 9th 2.00 - 4.00pm NATURE DETECTIVES!

Explore and discover the hidden 'beasties' of picturesque Glen Quoich. 'Bug boxes' provided! U-16 with an adult

Booking Essential – 0844 493 2173

Mar Lodge Estate, nr. Braemar

Family Ticket £6. Unaccompanied children over 21, £2!

National Trust for Scotland. Wellies Useful. Sorry no dogs



July 11th 12noon – 4.00pm MUIR OF DINNET NNR OPEN DAY

Take part in fun activities for all the family on the Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve. U16 with an adult.

Booking Essential Catriona Reid (SNH) on 01224 642863,

Catriona.Reid@snh.gov.uk

Burn o' Vat Visitor Centre, near Dinnet

Free

Aberdeenshire Council & Scottish Natural Heritage, Wheelchair access

July 11th 11.00am – 4.00pm ALPINE SECRETS

Spend the day in Corrie Fee National Nature Reserve and discover the importance of its fauna and flora.

Booking Essential 01575 550233

Glen Doll Ranger Base. Kirriemuir. Grid Ref: NO282759

Free

Angus Glens Ranger Service. Stout shoes and packed lunch required. Bring binoculars if you can.

July 13th 2.00 – 4.00pm FEEDERS AND HOMES

Drop in and join in. Make wildlife feeders and nestboxes. Drop in anytime between 2.00 and 4.00pm

Atholl Estates Information Centre, Blair Atholl

Charge: Donations.

Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 15th 11.00 – 1.00 pm WILD IN THE WOODS (Family Fun)

Come and have fun in the woods. Join us for some environmental activities and discover woodland wildlife.

No need to book. Phone 01478 861220 for info

Meet at Glenmore Visitor Centre Car Park

Free event

Forestry Commission Scotland. U16 with an adult

July 15th 10.30am – 12.00pm WET AND WILD

Kids' event. Discover the weird, watery world around the river.

Atholl Estates Information Centre, Blair Atholl

Charge: Children £1.00.

Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 16th 2pm – 5pm RED KITE DAY WITH THE RSPB

Join the Ranger and RSPB Red Kite Community Officer for an afternoon of activities and crafts celebrating the Red Kite.

Meet at Talla na Ross, King Street, Kingussie. 01540 673 907

Adults £3, concessions & children £2

Highland Council Countryside Rangers



18th July 10 am—12 noon Dragonfly & Damselfly Event

If you would like to know your darters from your hawkers come along to this family event. Meet at Revack Café car park. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.** Bring: wellies and warm clothing (or sun cream!) Free event, donations appreciated. information Contact the ranger on 01479 821565 or e-mail ranger@nethybridge.com

Explore Abernethy

July 20th 2.00 – 3.30pm EXPLORE GLEN FENDER MEADOW 2

A glorious meadow with wild flowers, butterflies and bumblebees. Come and see what we can see today and maybe record some new species. May be rough and wet underfoot.

Follow signs from opposite Tilt Hotel

Charge: £2

Atholl Estates

July 22nd 11.00 – 1.00 pm WILD IN THE WOODS (Family Fun)

Come and have fun in the woods. Join us for some environmental activities and discover woodland wildlife.

No need to book. Phone 01478 861220 for info

Meet at Glenmore Visitor Centre Car Park

Free event

Forestry Commission Scotland. U16 with an adult

July 22nd 10.30am – 12.00pm MAGIC SPELL AND BROOMSTICK WALK

Practice spells in the woods and make a broomstick to take home.

Atholl Estates Information Centre, Blair Atholl

Charge: Children £1.00.

Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 24th 8.30pm – late NIGHT LIFE & NIGHT SKIES

Meet moths & bats & observe the moon, stars & planets, but if it's cloudy we can take a virtual tour of the night sky! U16 with an adult.

Booking Essential Glen Tanar Rangers 013398 86072, ranger@glentamar.co.uk

Braeloine Visitor Centre, Glen Tanar, near Aboyne

Free

Aberdeenshire Council & Glen Tanar Charitable Trust, Wheelchair access, Bring torch, binoculars & sunglasses/wide-brimmed hat if available.

July 24th 11am – 3pm BERRY COLECTING & PICNIC DAY!

Come along and collect various yummy berries with local expert and the Countryside Ranger! Bring your own picnic half-way through and share some recipes. Bring a basket or two!

Booking essential 01479 873 914

Adults £7, concessions & children £4

Highland Council Countryside Rangers



July 24th **2.00 - 4.00pm** **NATURE DETECTIVES!**
Explore and discover the hidden 'beasties' of picturesque Glen Quoich. 'Bug boxes' provided! U-16 with an adult
Booking Essential – 0844 493 2173
Mar Lodge Estate, nr. Braemar
Family Ticket £6. Unaccompanied children over 21, £2!
National Trust for Scotland. Wellies Useful. Sorry no dogs

July 25th **10.30 – 1.30 pm** **THE MAGIC OF RYVOAN**
Walk in Ryvoan's magical mix of pinewoods, mountain and loch. Bag some views and exercise and see what the fairies have done.
No need to book. Phone 01478 861220 for info
Meet at Glenmore Visitor Centre Car Park
Free event
Forestry Commission Scotland

25th July **1-3pm** **2010 Butterfly Event**
Come and learn more about our local butterflies with an expert recorder from Butterfly Conservation. A fun family event with activities for children including: making masks, decorating cakes and face painting. Meet at Nethy Bridge Community Centre. Bring warm clothes. **Booking recommended** but not essential. Contact the ranger for further information on 01479 821565 or email ranger@nethybridge.com
Explore Abernethy

27th July 2010 **1.30-5pm** **Biodiversity Day**
Come along and help experts from Scottish Natural Heritage & RSPB identify and record the amazing array of birds, plants and insects we have in Dell Woods. Then return to the Community Centre for refreshments and to compare species found. Bring suitable outdoor clothing. Meet at Nethy Bridge Community Centre. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.** Donations appreciated. This event is not suitable for people accompanied by dogs. For more information contact the ranger on 01479 821565 or e-mail ranger@nethybridge.com

July 27th **2.00 – 3.30pm** **ROCKY TREASURE HUNT**
A family event searching for rocks and treasure in the woods.
Glen Tilt Car Park, by Blair Atholl. 1 mile north of Blair Atholl on road to Old Blair.
Kids £2
Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 28th **1.30 – 4.30pm** **JEWELS OF THE AIR**
Help record butterflies, moths, dragonflies and damselflies on a 3 mile/5 km walk. U16 with an adult.
Booking Essential South Marr Ranger c/o Bennachie Centre 01467 681470
Duck pond car park, Chapel Brae, Braemar
Free
Aberdeenshire Council, Easy Walk, Bring binoculars if available.



July 29th 11.00 – 1.00 pm WILD IN THE WOODS (Family Fun)

Come and have fun in the woods. Join us for some environmental activities and discover woodland wildlife.

No need to book. Phone 01478 861220 for info

Meet at Glenmore Visitor Centre Car Park

Free event

Forestry Commission Scotland. U16 with an adult

July 29th 10.30am – 12.00pm WET AND WILD

Kids' event. Discover the weird, watery world around the river.

Atholl Estates Information Centre, Blair Atholl

Charge: Children £1.00.

Atholl Estates. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 30th 9:30-5:00pm SPECTACULAR SUMMER SCRAMBLES.

Join the rangers on an exposed rocky route up one of the local munros. A good level of fitness and a head for heights are required for this strenuous but rewarding hill day. Distance: 12Kms, ascent 750m. Meeting point: The Spittal of Glen Muick visitor centre.

Cost: £10/person.

Booking essential, limited places available. – 013397 55059.

Balmoral Ranger Service

