

Living with Birds

Birds are such an important part of our daily lives – with the arrivals and departures of migrating birds defining the seasons of each passing year. But for some, their work to protect what so many of us enjoy has led to some very close encounters with birds, as well as other wild nature, and has taken them to some wild and beautiful places. Our speakers will show you how their lives have been enriched by these intimate relationships, as well as how their encounters have resulted in some valuable contributions to scientific research. The speakers will take us on a journey across the world, from New Zealand to the Antarctic, from St Kilda to Colonsay and Oronsay, through to your very own back gardens.

Speakers

Matt Low	Department of Ecology Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Will Miles	University of Glasgow
Simon Foster	SNH, Policy and Advice Officer
David Jardine	SOC President
Mike Toms	BTO, Head of Garden Ecology
Liz Humphreys	BTO Scotland, Research Ecologist
Paul Haworth	Haworth Conservation Limited
Roy Dennis	Highland Foundation for Wildlife

Displays & Sales

A number of organisations will have displays at the conference. Both the SOC and the BTO will have a sales and information table.

Culloden Academy

Culloden Academy is a large school with excellent conference facilities, including a lecture theatre which seats over 300 people. The Academy is close to Inverness and is easily accessible, just off the A9. There is disabled access and ample car parking available on site. A location map and transport details will be sent with booking confirmation. If you are interested in car sharing then please contact Waterston House on 01875 871330, email mail@the-soc.org.uk



Scottish Birdwatchers' Conference

Saturday 20 March 2010
Culloden Academy, Culloden, Inverness

Hosted by
BTO Scotland and SOC Highland Branch

Living with Birds



THE KAKAPO OR OWL PARROT
STRIGOPS HABROPTILUS

BOOKING FORM

Name(s) (Block capitals please) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Any dietary requirements _____

I/we would like to book _____ places and enclose a cheque/PO for £ _____

Please PRINT exactly what you would like to appear on your name badge

Name _____ Affiliation/Location _____

I am a member of (tick all that apply) BTO SOC

Please send me membership details for BTO SOC

Please indicate where you heard about the conference _____

Conference and Booking Fee

The charge for the conference (incl. VAT) is £27.00. This includes registration fee, lunch and all teas/coffees. Please return the booking form along with payment to arrive no later than **26th February 2010**, cheques being made payable to "British Trust for Ornithology" written in full. Applications will be accepted in the order they are received, so please book early to avoid disappointment. Booking confirmation will be sent to all delegates. We regret that no refunds can be issued after 5th March.

For bookings and further information please contact:

Robin Anderson, BTO Scotland, School of Biological & Environmental Sciences,
University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA

E-mail: scot.info@bto.org Tel: 01786 466560 Fax: 01786 466561

Programme – 20 March 2010

- 09.00 *Registration and Tea/Coffee*
- 09.45 **Welcome and Introduction - Chris Wernham (Head of BTO Scotland)**
- 10.00 **Marooned with the Birds - Matt Low**
Offshore islands are often the last refuges for many birds – Matt will focus on conservation projects in New Zealand and Antarctica.
- 10.30 **Living with birds on St Kilda - Will Miles**
A summary of research into skua and storm-petrel predator/ prey interactions, seabird surveying and birding on St Kilda.
- 11.00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11.30 **Bird Ringing from a Highland Perspective - Simon Foster**
Covering some of the local bird ringing projects in the Highlands; looking at the results and towards the future.
- 12.00 **Birds Living with Birds - David Jardine**
This presentation will provide observations on intra-bird interactions from long term studies on the island of Colonsay and Oronsay, Argyll.
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 14.00 **Understanding the Importance of Scotland's Garden Birds - Mike Toms**
This talk uses evidence from BTO surveys and monitoring schemes to highlight the importance of gardens for birds.
- 14.30 **Birds and Butterflies: Who's in your Neighbourhood? - Liz Humphreys**
Presenting some of the surprises found as a result of the Biodiversity in Glasgow project which was set up to get volunteers involved in surveying in urban areas.
- 15.00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 15.30 **Golden Eagles: Prey, Productivity and Land Use - Paul Haworth**
A review of recent work highlighting the major issues affecting golden eagles in Scotland.
- 16.00 **Restoring Large Mammals to Scotland - Roy Dennis**
Ecological restoration and the importance of restoring our lost mammals. Exciting possibilities or a minefield of problems? When will we be atlassing for lynx? Will we ever hear again the howl of a wolf?
- 16.30 **Raffle and Quiz Results**
- 16.50 **Summing Up and Closing Remarks – David Jardine (SOC President)**
- 17.00 **SOC Extra Ordinary General Meeting (10 Mins)**