

We hope you manage to make it along to some of our branch outings. Don't forget, as an SOC member you're welcome to attend any of the outings listed here - not just those with your local branch. Please speak to the relevant branch beforehand so that they know to expect you.

On our outdoor trips the aim is not just to see the largest number of birds, but to find and watch and enjoy. These are a great opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals whilst bettering your bird ID skills. There will always be someone on hand to help with the trickier aspects of field identification.

Non-members interested in finding out more about the Club, our activities and membership are more than welcome to come along and sample one of these outings. Please contact the branch representative in advance to let them know you're planning to attend.

Want a timely reminder about your branch's upcoming outings? Complete our online consent form at www.the-soc.org.uk/members-area to allow us to send you these (if you haven't done so already).

* Ayrshire

Contact: Jim Thomson (Tel: 01292 571899) or Anne Dick (Tel: 01292 541981, email: a_m_dick@btinternet.com)

All outings are joint with Central Ayrshire RSPB Local Group. For outings and to arrange carshare, contact Jim Thomson or Anne Dick. For coach trips please contact Tony Scott on 01292 281085.

Sat 21 Mar Auchincruive. Meet at 10.00am
Fri 24 Apr Dumfries House. Meet at visitor centre at 10.00am (NB Friday to avoid the crowds)

* Borders

Contact: Neil Stratton (Tel: 01573 450695, email: neildstratton@btinternet.com)

Sat 14 Mar Leithen Water and Thornilee. Meet at lay-by on B709 (NT333402) at 10am
Thu 23 Apr Folly Loch and Teviot Haugh. Meet at Woodside Garden Centre car park (NT643249) at 10.00am
Tue 19 May Lindisfarne, Northumberland. Meet at the landward end of the causeway (NU078427) at 11.00am
Sat 6 Jun Plora Wood, Walkerburn. Meet at the parking area next to the forestry road entrance (NT358366) at 10.00am

* Caithness

Contact: Nina O'Hanlon (Tel: 07810 300392, email: caithnesssecretary@the-soc.org.uk)

No outings currently planned. Any updates will be available on the SOC website.

* Central Scotland

Contact: Rick Goater (Tel: 07875 029201, email: rick.goater@btinternet.com)

Please contact Rick Goater for outings details if you don't receive these by email.

Sat 18 Apr Reedland residents: The shore of the River Tay >>

Sun 3 May We'll take our chances locally: Sherriff Muir or Longcarse?
Sat 23 May Birds of the Western Woodlands: Inversnaird area
Sat 13 Jun A day on Arran
25-26 Jul A 'Rosy' weekend in Northumberland
27 Aug - 8 Sep Orkney Adventure: Migrants on North Ronaldsay

* Clyde

Contact: David Palmar (Tel: 07904 119047, email: dpalmar2000@yahoo.co.uk)

Meet at the venue at 10.00am unless otherwise specified. If you want a lift or can offer one, please contact David Palmar in advance. Bring a packed lunch. Excursion details will be sent by email, if you have signed up for this.

Sun 8 Mar Linlithgow Loch (David Palmar)
Sat 2 May RSPB Loch Lomond. Booking essential. Meet at 9.30am (Ian Fulton)
Sat 23 May Great Cumbrae. Meet at Largs ferry slip for 10.15am ferry (Eddie Williams)

* Dumfries

Contact: Lesley Creamer (Tel: 01848 330821, email: dumfriessecretary@the-soc.org.uk)

27-30 Apr Forth coast from Musselburgh to St Abbs (Duncan Irving)

* Fife

Contact: Caroline Gordon (Tel: 01592 750230, email: fifesecondary@the-soc.org.uk)

Sat 14 Mar Loch Leven and Portmoak Moss (Caroline Gordon)
Sat 11 Apr Black Grouse lek in Perthshire - there will be an early start (David Heeley)
15-18 May Galloway weekend (Caroline Gordon)
Sat 20 Jun Isle of May (leader to be confirmed)

* Highland

Contact: Kathy Bonniface (Tel: 01808 511740, email: highlandsecretary@the-soc.org.uk)

Meet at 9.00am (9.15am Thursdays) at Inverness Retail Park, near Burger King. Thursday outings will be led by a committee member.

Thu 19 Mar Local birding
Sat 18 Apr Skye (leader to be announced)
Thu 23 Apr Local birding (Jonathan Clarke)
Sat 16 May Small Isles trip for the day on MV Shearwater from Arisaig. Times to be announced (Carol Miller)

* Lothian

Contact: Gillian Herbert (Tel: 0131 339 6479, email: gillianiherbert@btinternet.com)

These are full-day trips so please bring packed lunch and stout footwear. Transport is on a carshare basis. Details will be available at indoor meetings, or from Gillian Herbert.

Sun 15 Mar Gullane to North Berwick (Richard Leslie)
Sun 19 Apr Roslin Glen & Penicuik Estate (Mike Thornton)
Sun 10 May Lammermuirs (Richard Leslie)
Thu 14 May Musselburgh (J & D Main)
Sun 21 Jun Comrie Glens (David Atkins)
Sun 19 Jul St Abbs (Hilary Maxfield)
Sun 23 Aug Aberlady Bay (Alison Creamer)
Sun 13 Sep Birnie & Gaddons Lochs (David Atkins)

* Moray

Contact: Alison Ritchie (Tel: 01309 674379, email: moraysecretary@the-soc.org.uk)

Sat 2 May Dawn Chorus at Loch Spynie (Alastair Young)
Sat 16 May Bird race
Sat 6 Jun Tombae (Martin Cook)
Sat 4 Jul Troup Head (David Law)

* North-East Scotland

Contact: John Wills (Tel: 01467 651296, email: grampian.secretary@the-soc.org.uk)

The branch has recently set up ABC - Aberdeen Birding Calendar, an exciting, different, programme of outdoor gatherings for those new to birding and for lifelong enthusiasts too. Ringing, photography and bird ID are just a few of the many topics on offer. The outings are free but booking is essential and numbers are limited. Please go to www.the-soc.org.uk/local-branches/north-east-scotland for further details on the events and how to book.

* Orkney

Contact: Helen Aiton (Tel: 01856 751482, email: helendavidaiton@hotmail.co.uk)

No outings planned.

* Stewartry

Contact: Joan Howie (Tel: 01644 420280, email: joanospreys1@btinternet.com)

Please phone the night before, **as soon as possible after 7pm**, to make sure an excursion is taking place as planned - Joan 01644 420280 or Peter 01556 502144.

2-9 May Week on Speyside
June Few days in Leighton Moss area, dates to be announced if there is interest

Fri 13 Mar/ Loch Ryan, Mersehead &
Fri 27 Mar/ Crook of Baldoon. Venue on
Fri 3 Apr each date depends on weather & bird news

Fri 17 Apr Garroch Estate
Fri 24 Apr Water of Minnoch
May Lesser Whitethroats - date to be announced

Fri 15 May Scaur Glen, near Penpont
Fri 22 May Glenim and Mennoch Pass
June Bobby's Sand Martins - date to be announced

Fri 26 Jun Brighthouse Bay >>

Jul/Aug Clyde cruises on P.S. Waverley
Fri 21 Aug Newbie (high tide 2.36pm, 8.64m)
Fri 4 Sep Threave N.T.S.
Fri 18 Sep Garlieston (high tide 1.00pm, 8.88m)
Fri 9 Oct Caerlaverock WWT Reserve
Fri 23 Oct Mersehead RSPB Reserve

* Tayside

Contact: Brian Brocklehurst
(Tel: 01382 778348, email: brian.brocklehurst1@btinternet.com)

All meets are joint with Angus & Dundee Bird Club; members are urged to carshare wherever possible.

Sun 15 Mar Angus Lochs. Meet at Loch of Kinnordy at 9.30am
Sun 14 Jun Barry Buddon Open Nature Day. Meet at Monifieth Football Pitch car park at 10.00am

* West Galloway

Contact: Geoff Sheppard (Tel: 01776 870685, email: geoff.rodgers@btinternet.com)

No outings currently planned. Any updates will be available on the SOC website.

Taken some good bird photos on an outing? Upload them to the SOC photo gallery (see guidelines on our website)

Participants are reminded that the Club, its branches and individual leaders of outings cannot accept responsibility for any injury suffered by individuals taking part in these outings, or any loss or damage to their property. For more general information about the SOC, please visit www.the-soc.org.uk or call us on 01875 871 330.

Front cover: Redstart © Laurie Campbell / Design by LSD2IN



Welcome to the... 2020 SUMMER OUTINGS PROGRAMME

Scottish Ornithologists' Club (SOC)
Tel: 01875 871 330
Email: mail@the-soc.org.uk

www.the-soc.org.uk

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The SOC is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Reg. No. SC009859