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Issue 43 Winter 2015

newsletter of the Solway Firth Partnership



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Blue Project**
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Chairman's Column

Alastair McNeill FCIWEM C.WEM MCM



Summer saw a busy spell for SFP during which time staff changes took place in the office. Paul Mackey, who has a background in accountancy, joined the team as Administrator/Finance Officer following the departure of Alison Robertson who recently took early retirement. We welcome Paul to the team and wish Alison all the best for the future.

In August the culmination of the Out of the Blue project took place at an event at the Isle of Whithorn with the launch of two publications, Fishy Tales and Fishy Dishes. Fishy Tales complements a mobile exhibition of the same name whilst Fishy Dishes is a collection of recipes using local catch. The importance of the Solway fishery and its contribution to the region are often underestimated and the publications together with the exhibition seek to raise understanding and awareness of the role of local sea fisheries in Dumfries and Galloway. The publications draw attention to both the history and current day role of the industry as well as encourage more people to make use of locally landed seafood. Pam Taylor and Nic Coombey from SFP ensured the success of Out of the Blue which was supported by funding from Dumfries and Galloway Council and the European Fisheries Fund.

The Out of the Blue project is complemented by SFP's participation in the South West Inshore Fisheries Group (SWIFG) and NW Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA). SFP will have a stand at this year's annual Inshore Fisheries Conference taking place in Inverness in October. The work of the partnership will be on display though

the main emphasis will be in relation to the support SFP has made to helping sustain the Solway fishery.

SFP has begun a new project at the Brow Well on the Dumfries & Galloway Heritage Trail enabled by landfill funding from Solway Heritage and funds from Dumfries and Galloway Council and Burns associations. The Brow Well is a ferruginous or iron bearing spring which together with other mineral salts was historically believed to give the waters healing properties. Made famous by Robert Burns' association with the well, the current structure as modified during the 20th century is now looking tired. The project will refurbish the well and improve its associated environs to encourage greater awareness of the feature and its surroundings. A commemoration of the death of Robert Burns, who died four days after visiting the well's waters on the 21 July 1796, takes place each year at the Brow Well. SFP was represented at this July's commemoration event by Clair McFarlan and Nic Coombey in recognition of the proposed project development.

SFP's successful delivery of projects is normally enabled by external funding sources specifically provided for each project whereas day to day operations rely on core funding from partner organisations located on either side of the Solway Firth. The continued support of partners remains crucial to the achievement of SFP's key core aims of supporting a vibrant sustainable economy while respecting, protecting and celebrating the character, heritage and natural features of the Solway Firth.



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Photography: Front Cover – Scallop Fisherman image by Colin Tennant; pages 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15 – all fisheries images by Colin Tennant; pages 6, 7 – Fishy Dishes by David Moses; pages 7, 8, 9 – publication images by Weesleekit; pages 12, 13 – image of 'Local Fisheries Inspector' courtesy of Erik Thinnesen, all other images courtesy of The Lake District Coast Aquarium; page 16, 17 – Sundew by Nic Coombey, all other images courtesy of Solway Wetlands; pages 18, 19 – all images courtesy of Cumbria FLAG; page 20 – beadlet anemone / starfish / dahlia anemone / ray egg case by Solway Firth Partnership; Breadcrumb sponge / spider crab / group surveying shore by Cumbria Wildlife Trust; page 21 – Illustrations by lucyhadley.com, image by Gatehouse Development Initiative

Behind the scenes



Amazing images and distinctive graphic designs were required by Solway Firth Partnership's Out of the Blue project to create a range of promotional material including interpretation at harbours, a touring exhibition, a website and a variety of publications.

Fishery photographs

Colin Tennant Photography was commissioned to produce images to be used to raise awareness and understanding of sea fisheries. His photographic practice has focussed on real people, lifestyle, communities and contemporary events and festivals. By his own admission documentary

photography is his main strength and where his genuine passion lies. His background in fine art photography has allowed him to deliver a style which generates stunning images to support a narrative that is honest and true.

Colin surpassed the expectations of the Out of the Blue team by producing exceptional photographs. His easygoing manner allowed him to mix well with the fishermen enabling him to capture exactly the type of images we needed for the various aspects of the Out of the Blue project. The work was only made possible by the generous help of the fishing industry including fishermen Andrew Lochhead, Steven Girgan, Allan Watson and Rob Lamont as well as Stuart King of West Coast Sea Products.



Weesleekit team,
Nicky O'Toole
second from
right



Solway seafood brand

Graphic designers Weesleekit were commissioned to create a distinctive brand which would become a recognisable badge for seafood landed on the Solway. This brand has been used by them to provide a consistent style for all the interpretive and promotional aspects of the Out of the Blue project including the development of a 'Solway seafood' website with information about local fisheries, where to buy local catch, where to dine out on local seafood and much more will soon be available.

The design work has been undertaken by senior designer Nicky O'Toole who tackled the task with professionalism, talent and enthusiasm for seafood!

Solway Firth Partnership's Out of the Blue project was supported by the European Fisheries Fund and Dumfries and Galloway Council and will provide a solid foundation for the promotion of the seafood from our region. It will help celebrate the unique part that local sea fisheries play in the culture and heritage of our region, the role the industry can have in encouraging creative and original marketing and the enjoyment of local seafood as an integral part of our local food and tourism offer. The Out of the Blue project and Solway Seafood brand should be an inspiration to us all.

Solway Firth
Partnership

THE FISHERMEN'S
MISSION

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY
FISHERIES LOCAL ACTION GROUP

European Fisheries Fund
Investing in sustainable
fisheries

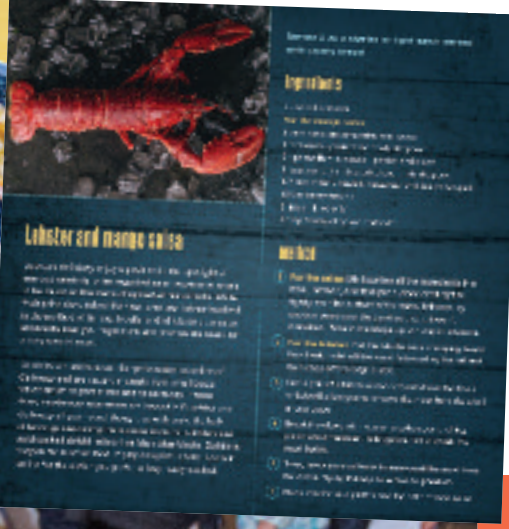
Dumfries
& Galloway
COUNCIL

The Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

FISHY DISHES

Solway Seafood is wild food thriving on a natural diet, growing in the open seas until it is harvested by fishermen and landed at harbours along the Dumfries and Galloway coast.





The quality of our local seafood is second to none but is often regarded as a 'cash crop' to be sold abroad rather than consumed at home. Solway Firth Partnership's Out of the Blue project aims to promote our fabulous local seafood and encourage more people to enjoy this world class catch.

The Fishy Dishes pack provides a series of recipe cards suggesting delicious dishes using locally landed seafood. Each dish was prepared by chef Maria Salzmann and expertly photographed by David Moses to create a mouth-watering publication which illustrates the range of seafood available.

Caught on camera

The Fishy Dishes publication required stunning images of food that would illustrate the

Support our local fishing industry and eat more seafood.



David Moses

deliciousness of what we have to offer in Dumfries and Galloway and we needed to find a photographer who could capture the essence of our local seafood. With David Moses we found someone who had a passion for the subject and could fulfil our vision. Working as a commercial and editorial photographer near Newton Stewart, David has an understanding of what it takes to compose an appealing image and,

working in collaboration with chef Maria Salzmann, the raw ingredients were gathered and simple dishes crafted. Maria has a passion for locally sourced, fresh ingredients and believes food preparation and eating should be fun and a great way for people to enjoy time together.

Every dish has been photographed to capture the colour and freshness of locally landed seafood which is wild, natural and delicious.



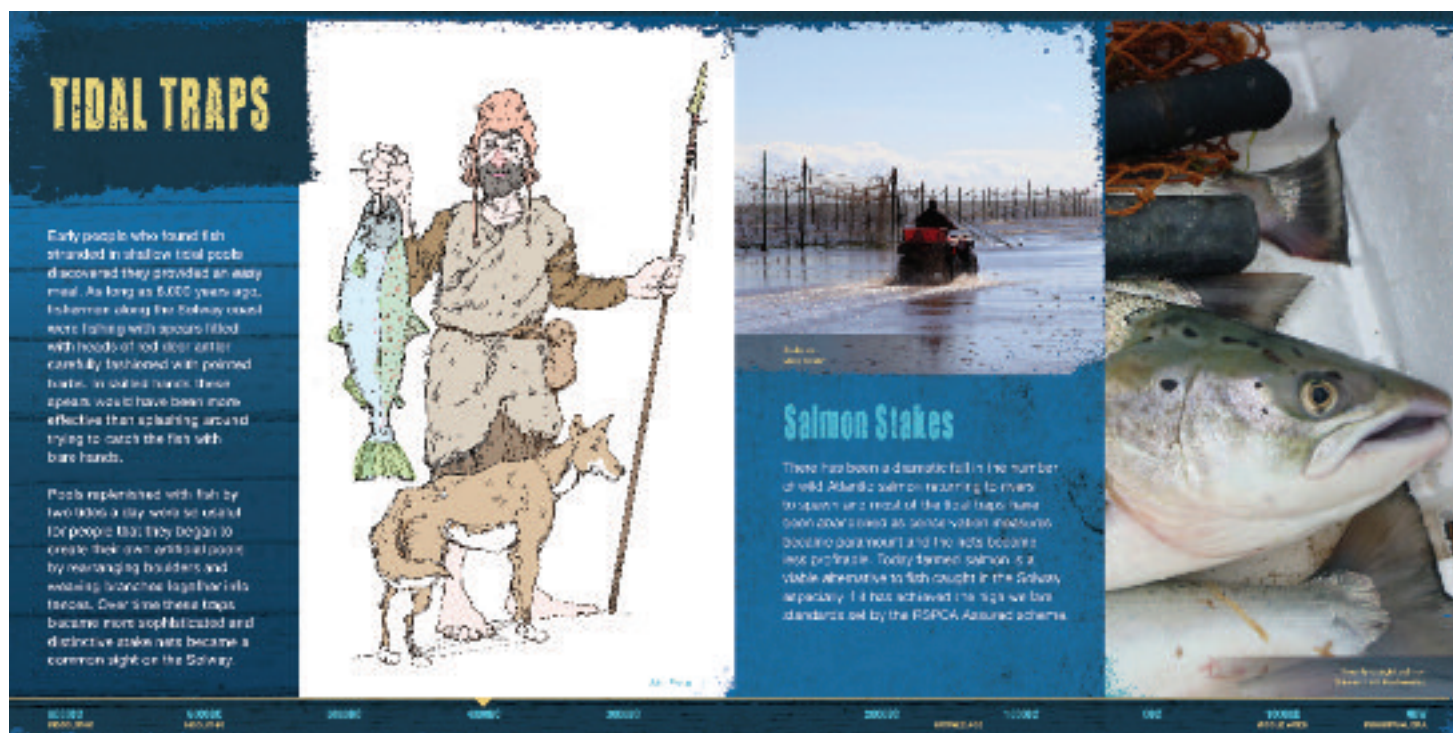
Maria Salzmann



Fishy Tales

The Solway Firth Partnership's Fishy Tales travelling exhibition and accompanying publication was developed as part of the Out of the Blue project and takes you on a journey through time to reveal the story of people who have fished the Solway coast.





Seafood has sustained the people of south west Scotland for the past 10,000 years and traditional fishing methods are an important part of our coastal identity which is often overlooked. Using historical characters and stunning photographs Fishy Tales explains the old fishing methods employed and how they have changed into the evolving commercial fishing industry we have today.

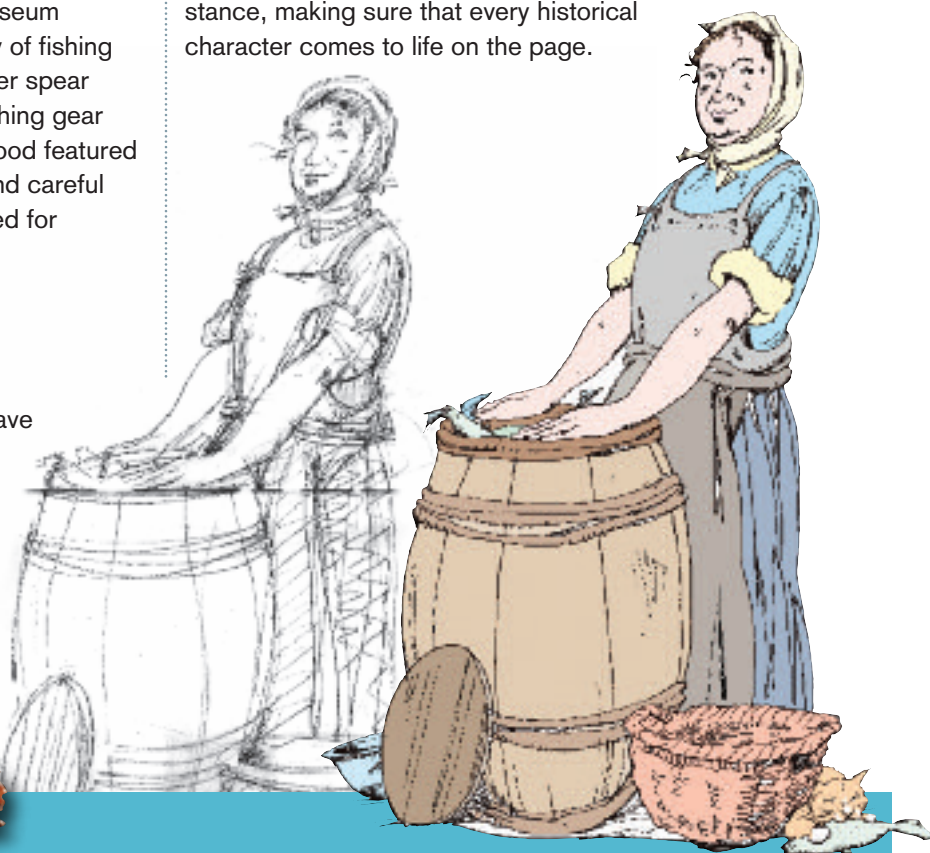
A series of artefacts and photographs from museum collections have been used to illustrate the history of fishing and range from a 6,000 year old carved deer antler spear head found in Kirkcudbright Bay to the scallop fishing gear used in the current fishing industry. The wild seafood featured remains an important part of our rural economy and careful management will ensure our fisheries are sustained for generations to come.

John Pickin

The Out of the Blue project has provided an opportunity to tell the stories of the people who have fished the Solway coast in the past. Cartoon characters have been drawn by archaeological illustrator John Pickin to recreate snapshots of the past. John is based near Stranraer and has been involved with archaeology, heritage and museums for more than 30 years. His drawing skills means he can produce reconstructions featuring artefacts

displayed in museums converting archaeological finds into living history by imagining characters from the past.

Each cartoon has been painstakingly researched to ensure that not only the fishing artefact is depicted accurately but the clothing and even haircuts are authentic. John even gets inspiration from family members posing for his initial sketches so that the cartoons capture a realistic stance, making sure that every historical character comes to life on the page.



The Fishy Tales exhibition will be appearing in Dumfries and Galloway Museums during 2015/16. Solway Firth Partnership's Out of the Blue project was funded by the European Fisheries Fund and Dumfries and Galloway Council.

FISHY EXHIBITIONS



Some of the most striking images from a commission undertaken as part of Solway Firth Partnership's Out of the Blue project have formed the basis of an outdoor photographic exhibition.



For Colin Tennant, a photographer and visual artist, this was an unusual commission and he jumped at the chance to cover a subject which is rarely documented. Pictures of fishing boats in harbours are commonplace but Colin has managed to capture the true nature of the industry in an original way. This involved taking a Sea Survival training course so that Colin could go out on commercial fishing boats and really get to know the industry at work.

Some of the most engaging and creative shots taken were selected to create a photographic essay about the local sea fishing industry at work and included many shots taken at sea. The pictures taken over the past 8 months on the Solway coast were printed onto large 'canvases' and displayed on 'easels' made from scallop fishing gear. A series of sixteen images shows the diversity of local sea fisheries including hand netting on the picturesque Cree estuary and scallop fishing in the black dark of night in the Irish Sea.

The exhibition was installed at the Moat Brae overlooking the working harbour of Kirkcudbright and was timed to complement the local Art and Crafts Trail. The exhibition was on show for the whole of August giving people a chance to see the images during the many Kirkcudbright Summer Festivities events and the Environmental Art Festival Scotland.

Solway Firth Partnership's Out of the Blue project was funded by the European Fisheries Fund and Dumfries and Galloway Council.



Environmental Art Festival Scotland

Setting marine images in our countryside provides an opportunity to raise awareness of an industry that is hidden from most people most of the time and so is often misunderstood or ignored. As part of Environmental Art Festival Scotland 2015 a series of striking images of the people, places and environments that support, shape and sustain locally landed seafood appeared on temporary billboards erected in fields near roads leading to Kirkcudbright. No explanation was provided for the billboards with the intention that they would generate interest and encourage people to question the meaning of the billboards and their fishy subject matter.

The Environmental Art Festival Scotland 2015 took place at the end of August at Morton Castle and provided another opportunity to compare and contrast agricultural industries and the seafood industry. The image installed in a gushing burn makes the connection between the uplands and the sea and the reliance of both on the quality of water.





A new lobster breeding programme for the Lake District Coast Aquarium

Breeding lobsters isn't easy but having been refined over several decades it has become a much less labour intensive process.

Today modern breeding programmes can offer a real prospect of helping to speed up the repopulation of a lobster fishery that has, for whatever reason, become less than optimal. However, breeding lobsters is not an economically viable proposition unless subsidised in some way. In the case of Maryport Coast Aquarium, subsidies are brought in by making the hatchery publicly accessible alongside the rest of the displays.

Although a few other places in the UK use similar strategies, Maryport Aquarium is unique in offering the opportunity of seeing the entire lifecycle

of this amazing animal. With the success of the programme comes not only the education of the public but also the chance to return hundreds of lobsters to the wild. The lobster breeding system at Maryport was only commissioned at the end of July 2015 but progress has already been made, as illustrated.

Female lobsters, called hens, arrive at the Aquarium courtesy of local fisheries inspector Erik Thinnesen. Lobsters



carrying eggs cannot be legally landed in Cumbria so a special dispensation is granted.

Under a microscope the well-developed eggs (*image 1*) can be observed, showing as

the smaller black blobs. The female lobster releases the eggs in batches and at night to reduce predation. The baby lobster (*image 2*), called larva, hatches out and immediately swims up to the surface to feed on plankton.

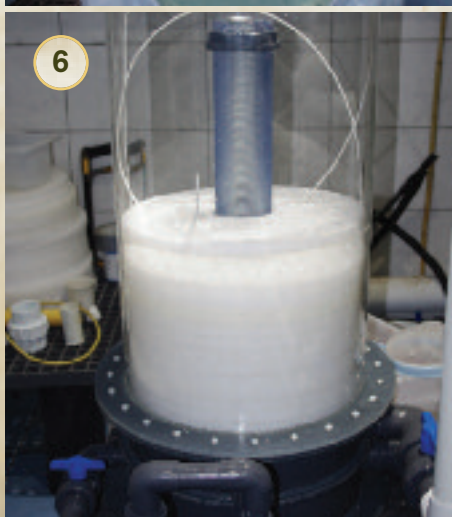
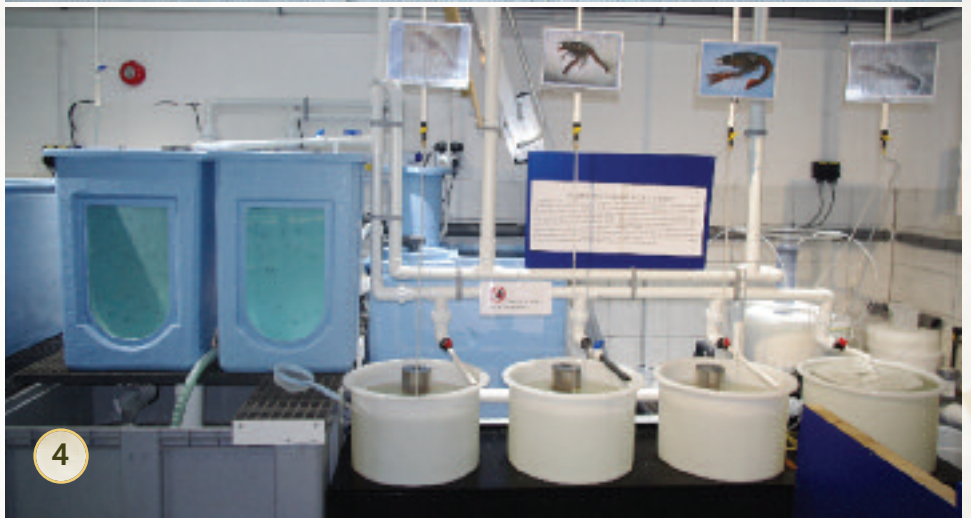
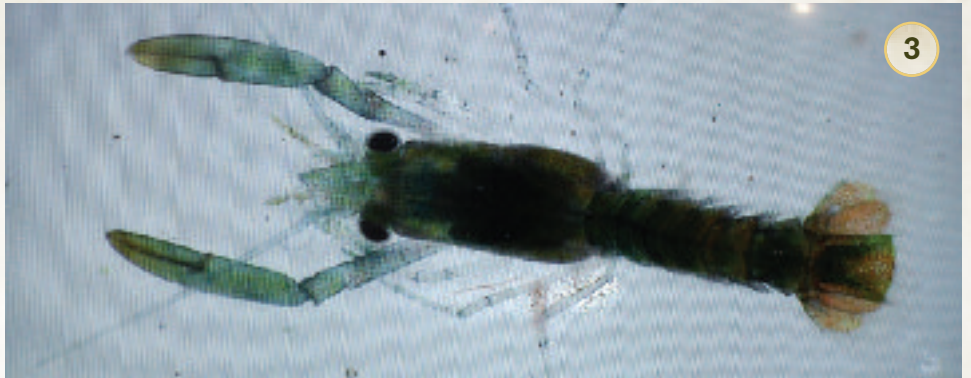
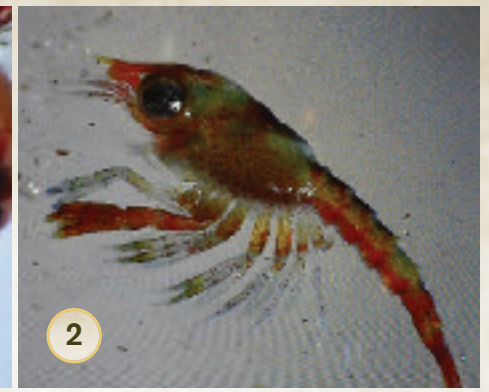
The lobster sheds its outer skin, called moult, three times over a few weeks to reach Stage Four, gradually changing shape to a more adult form (*image 3*).

It is now ready to descend to the sea bed where it will spend the rest of its life. In the wild the numbers that survive to this stage may be less than 5%. In captivity survival rates are much higher.

The growing larvae are displayed in the hatchery (*image 4*). The hatchlings are kept in blue containers, called Kreisels (*image 5*), and white bins which maintain a constant circulation of the water, keeping the larvae apart and distributing food.

The 'Aquahive' (*images 6 & 7*) is a highly ingenious structure that allows the rearing of thousands of young lobsters with very little effort and space. The 'Hive' is made up of a few dozen circular sections sealed off from each other and populated with little lobsters.

The final act of late summer, all going well, is to send the juvenile lobsters to sea with a local lobster potter. They remain in their little cells but with only a paper roof so that when the trays arrive on the seabed they can easily nibble their way out to freedom. The trays are weighted to sink but attached to a buoy so that they can be collected and re-used.



Tagging the released juvenile lobsters is not feasible making it difficult to be sure of the programme's success. However it is certain that those released have been assisted through the most hazardous part of their life and can now find a secure refuge under a stone in areas that are certainly capable of sustaining them.

For more information about Lake District Coast Aquarium phone 01900 817760 or visit www.coastaquarium.co.uk



The Fishermen's Mission

Our fishermen face danger, difficulty and poverty on a daily basis. However thanks to the Fishermen's Mission, they're not alone. When times are tough, we care for our fishermen in the most practical of ways and have done so for over 130 years. We help all fishermen, of any race or creed, active or retired, and their families.

The network of the Fishermen's Mission covers the entire coast of the United Kingdom, with the beautiful Solway coast coming under the remit of the Troon Mission (Area Manager Paula Daly) and Cumbria (Superintendent Ron Graham). The town of Kirkcudbright is covered by Superintendent Marian Dixon.



The facts about fishing

- More than 13,000 people work in fishing: the UK's toughest and most dangerous peacetime occupation
- At sea, they face death and injury with an average of 15 fishermen killed or seriously injured every year; fishermen are 115 times more likely to suffer a fatal accident than the rest of the workforce
- On land, many struggle with insecurity and debt. And for the 50,000 retired fishermen and their families, the fishing may have ended but the hardship continues as they face debt, scant savings, loneliness and isolation

The Fishermen's Mission is a lifeline for many and plays a vital role in fighting poverty and despair in our fishing communities. We do this by providing emergency and welfare support to all fishermen working in the UK and their families 24 hours a day, every day of the

year. Here are just some of the ways we can help:

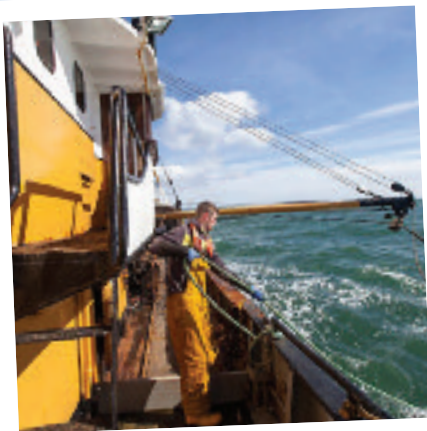
- Providing immediate assistance to the families of fishermen who have been killed or injured and supporting them during illness, distress or financial problems
- Looking after survivors of fishing boat accidents by finding medical help, a bed for the night or providing a hot meal and dry clothes
- Helping fishermen who have been in an accident, are taken ill, face poverty, are bereaved or simply need someone to talk to
- Alleviating loneliness by visiting retired fishermen and their families at home or in hospital
- Providing Christian pastoral, practical and emotional help with problems such as debt, sickness and bereavement as well as helping to pay bills, buy food and keep house and home together

In the past, fishermen have had access to inflatable oilskins and lifejackets. But they've proved too cumbersome to wear. The Fishermen's Mission has been working hard on a project to help improve safety at work for our fishermen. This has seen new lightweight and user-friendly Personal Flotation Devices (PFD), or lifejackets, being distributed to active fishermen.

Sam Cully, an Irish fisherman, knows all too well the importance of wearing a PFD. He said, "The Fishermen's Mission saved my life when they provided me with a PFD. A few weeks later my boat went down and I was on my own. I was in the water for some time before I was rescued. Without my PFD I would have died."

The Fishermen's Mission depends upon gifts and legacy giving; we don't receive government funding or lottery money.

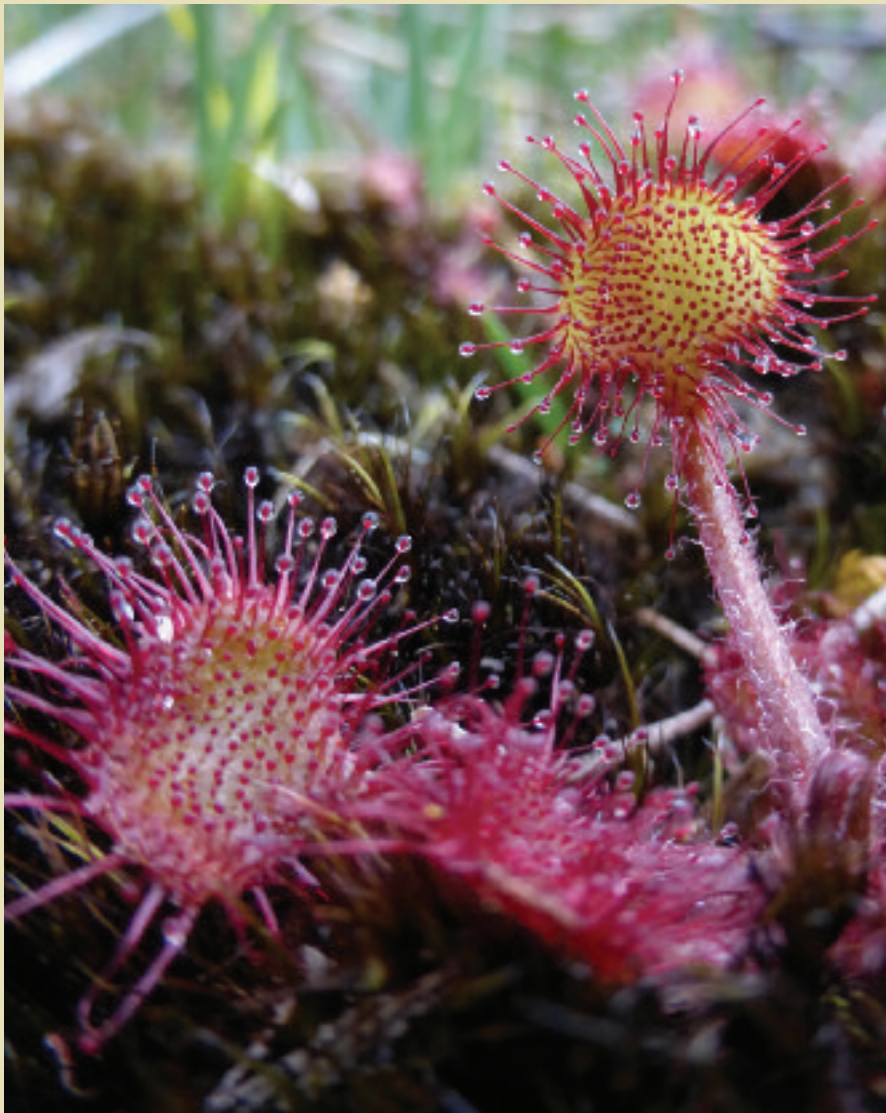
Paula Daly, The Fishermen's Mission



If you're a fisherman and you need our help, please contact Troon Mission on 07827 966023, Cumbria on 07827 966361 or Kirkcudbright on 07710 390160.

You can find out more about our work on our website www.fishermensmission.org.uk on our Facebook page 'Fishermen's Mission', or on Twitter @thefishmish





Now well into its third year, the Solway Wetlands Landscape Partnership Scheme is going from strength to strength, and we would love to welcome you to our area this winter for a visit. Please do come along and get involved with our activities, visit some of our new sites and see our work in progress.

*Naomi Hewitt,
Project Manager*



The South Solway's Wonderful Wetlands

The Centres

We now have two new centres on the Solway Plain to welcome visitors and tell the story of the natural and cultural significance of the area.

In 2013 we opened the Solway Wetlands Centre at RSPB Campfield Marsh, just 1.5 miles west of Bowness-on-Solway. Until the Project came about, there were no facilities to allow the public to enjoy and discover the wildlife of this important site and the wider Solway. The small visitor centre which is open every day was sensitively converted from a disused barn and boasts an exhibition, learning room, tea and coffee making facilities, toilets and car park, including disabled access. This year we worked with the RSPB to install a wetland discovery zone, two new circular trails, waymarking and boardwalks

across the bog, allowing more people to access and explore the landscape.

Our second centre is at Holme Cultram Abbey in the village of Abbeytown south east of Silloth. This 800 year old UK national monument was the centre of cultural life of the Solway where the Cistercian monks had a huge impact on the landscape and how people used it. The Abbey is now open to the public every day with the new exhibition introducing the history of the Abbey. There are improved access facilities including a toilet and tea room.

The Projects

Our projects are varied. A core part of the scheme is to restore wetland habitats focusing on lowland bog and wet grassland. We are also improving habitat for the Marsh Fritillary

butterfly, a species that is gradually becoming re-established in our area with the help of Natural England and Butterfly Conservation. A great place to see the Marsh Fritillary on the wing is Finglandrigg Wood National Nature Reserve, east of Kirkbride. Visit the meadows at the far end of the reserve in late May/June and you are likely to see lots of these tiny jewel-like butterflies flitting about in the sunshine – a spectacle not to be missed!

Our archaeology programme, Hidden Heritage, is a project that the public can get involved in. There are excavations, walkover surveys and archive research to be carried out and we need as much help as possible to do it!

In addition, a programme of events takes place each year. These have ranged from bat and moth walks, photography courses, wild food foraging and wetland discovery days for families. We also run activities for schools and youth groups, and run our own programme for young people, Solway Nature

Explorers. We have lots more events through winter so check the diary dates at the back of Tidelines, keep an eye on our website www.solwaywetlands.org.uk for details or email us to join our mailing list. Or you can contact us at info@solwaywetlands.org.uk and 016973 33055. Follow us on Facebook at Solway Wetlands and Twitter @SolwayWetlands.

The Solway Wetlands is a scheme funded largely by the Heritage Lottery, but has also received grant funding from several sources including the Solway Coast AONB, Hadrian's Wall Trust, the RSPB, Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust and the Carlisle Diocese. Nine project partners help to deliver the 29 projects across the Solway Plain and Coast. The Scheme is hosted within the Solway Coast AONB and is part of Allerdale Borough Council.



Learning about bog wildlife



New boardwalk across the bog



Solway Nature Explorers get certificates



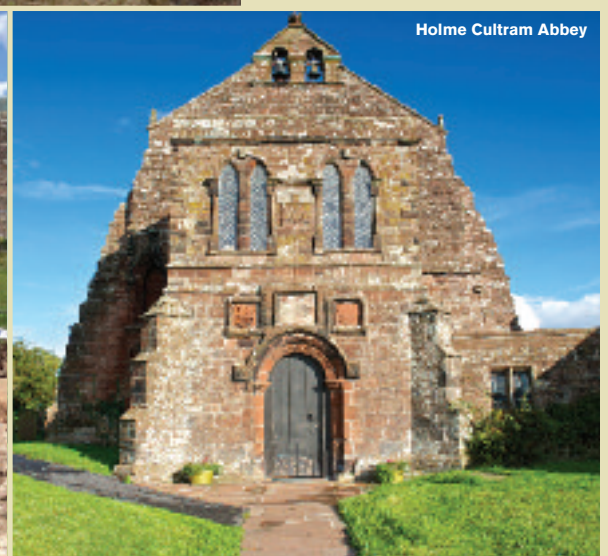
Saltpan surveys



An unexpected encounter



Abbey archaeology



Holme Cultram Abbey



Charlotte Crooks at station museum

Cumbria FLAG reflects on great projects!

At the end of three years of funding coastal projects amongst North and West Cumbria's fishing communities, the North & West Cumbria FLAG Team can reflect on the diverse range of successful projects that are now coming to fruition.



Cycle relay in Whitehaven



Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway

At the last Bank Holiday weekend, the FLAG Team were delighted to be invited to attend the 100th Birthday celebrations of the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway – known locally as La'al Ratty. The anniversary event also marked the completion of the first stage of the FLAG funded renovation of the Museum at the station. The FLAG team had a tour of the new interactive exhibits at the museum, which hadn't been renovated since the museum opened in 1976. The FLAG grant has enabled the Eskdale Cumbria Trust, who run the museum, to appeal to a new audience of steam railway enthusiasts. As well as documenting the 100 year history of the well-loved steam railway, the museum also tells the story of the local port of Ravenglass and its sea-fishing heritage.

Rachel Bell, marketing manager for the Museum said "The refurbished museum has helped to bring the community together to preserve this piece of history and attract more visitors to our local area and businesses, and will hopefully continue to grow and delight visitors for another 100 years; we would like to thank everyone who has helped make it all possible."

The FLAG wishes them every success for those next 100 years and thousands more visitors to beautiful Ravenglass.

The new Sea Lab at the Lake District Coast Aquarium is now fully open to the public and provides a new and fascinating addition to this gem of an attraction in the fishing port of Maryport.

Cumbria FLAG recently visited the aquarium to see the new extension and



Crooks family on La'al Ratty

the impressive facilities on offer to visitors. School groups and visitors can marvel at the new electronic equipment in the sea lab and explore all sorts of fascinating creatures under the powerful new microscope, whose images are relayed to a television screen for all to see, and examine the growth of plant life

in the new hydroponics area. The highlight of our visit was going 'under the sea' in the new glass pop-up dome.

Also this week saw the completion of the installation of Copeland's new coastal interpretation boards.

The interactive information panels form a link with communities along the coast from Millom to Lowca and provide historical and coastal facts through audio and visual stories. Local people from the coastal communities involved have contributed their voices and memories to the project. To celebrate the boards' launch, a cycle relay was organised starting at Millom using a golden stick of rock as a relay baton. Receiving the baton in Whitehaven to cycle the route to Parton village was FLAG programme manager Paul Crooks and his daughter Charlotte, who cycled the route in a Crooks family record of 14 minutes! It was a fabulous day out for all the cyclists involved and a great way of highlighting the new interpretation boards.

Diane Ward from Copeland Borough Council said, "It was a great way of launching the boards and was well supported by local cyclists who enjoyed cycling the route along the coast in the sunshine. We hope visitors to the West Cumbrian coast enjoy reading the history of our coastal communities."



Starfish



Beadlet anemone



Breadcrumb sponge



Dahlia anemone

Shoresearch group



Spider crab



Egg case from ray



Still searching the shores in Cumbria

An update from Bex Lynam, Volunteer Shoresearch Co-ordinator, Cumbria Wildlife Trust

The Wildlife Trusts' Shoresearch project has been running since 2011 in Cumbria, covering the area from the middle of the Solway down to the middle of the Dee. This volunteer-led coastal recording project identifies and records animals, plants, and habitats across our rocky shores.

Shoresearch surveys, which take place across the UK, allow us to feed vital information about our marine species and habitats into national databases. This information can then be used by scientists and government agencies to inform conservation and management decisions. In recent years the data provided by our volunteer Shoresearchers has been fed into work on Marine Conservation Zones (www.irishsea.org/MCZs).

You don't need to be a marine biologist to take part in a survey. Anyone with a keen interest in our rocky shores can join in and taking part in the Shoresearch project is a great way to learn in the field from experienced Shoresearchers. Plus, joining a survey is a great way to spend time outside on

our beautiful coastlines and meet like-minded people knowing that you are contributing to important survey work. What's more, volunteering on a project like Shoresearch can add greatly to your CV!

We normally spend two to three hours on the shore at low tide, filling in a Shoresearch recording form and photographing habitats and species found. After our checks there's always time for a hot cup of coffee or tea and a chat about the species we've seen.

If you'd like to join us on the rocky shores of Cumbria to assist with surveys then you can sign up to our regular Shoresearch newsletter by visiting www.irishsea.org/shoresearch. It provides upcoming dates for surveys across the North West, interesting facts and figures on locally found species and the latest information about our marine work.

For further information contact Bex at shoresearchnw@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk



lucyhadley.com

Celebrating Cally Voices

Visitors walking in Cally Woods, on the outskirts of Gatehouse of Fleet will be delighted to come across the newly repaired 18th century folly known as the Temple.

Unwrapped from the hessian which protected the carefully chosen lime mortar the repointed and consolidated building has emerged like a new gift in the landscape.

Alongside the building repairs Liz Niven, local poet and writer, has been raising awareness about the Temple and the wider designed landscape by gathering 'Cally Voices'. Her creative writing workshops have involved a wide variety of participants, including children from Gatehouse School, guests from the Cally Hotel and other visitors to the town, the Scouts, Forestry Commission Scotland staff and local poetry groups. A selection of the work produced by participants, alongside poems written by Liz during her residency, has been collated in an anthology of poetry launched during Wigtown Book Festival in October.

The building is now in a better physical condition, and also better interpreted and explained. Information boards have been installed at the site and at the Mill on the Fleet, which tell the story of the Temple and its place in the Designed Landscape of Cally.

A series of guided walks to the Temple have also helped create 'Cally Ambassadors' who will share their new knowledge about the building and its wider landscape with others.

The Cally Temple Project was led by the Gatehouse Development Initiative in partnership with the landowner, Forestry Commission Scotland. It was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, SWEAT Landfill Communities Fund, Solway Heritage Landfill Communities Fund, Forestry Commission Scotland, the Galloway Association of Glasgow, Dumfries and Galloway Council (National Scenic Area programme), Live Literature Funding, Scottish Book Trust, Murray Usher Foundation and the Galloway Preservation Society.

Copies of Cally Voices can be obtained from the Mill on the Fleet, and other local outlets. More information about the project, including a series of short seasonal films can be viewed at www.gatehouse-of-fleet.co.uk



Staff from Cally Palace Hotel



lucyhadley.com

BOOK REVIEW

Solway Country:

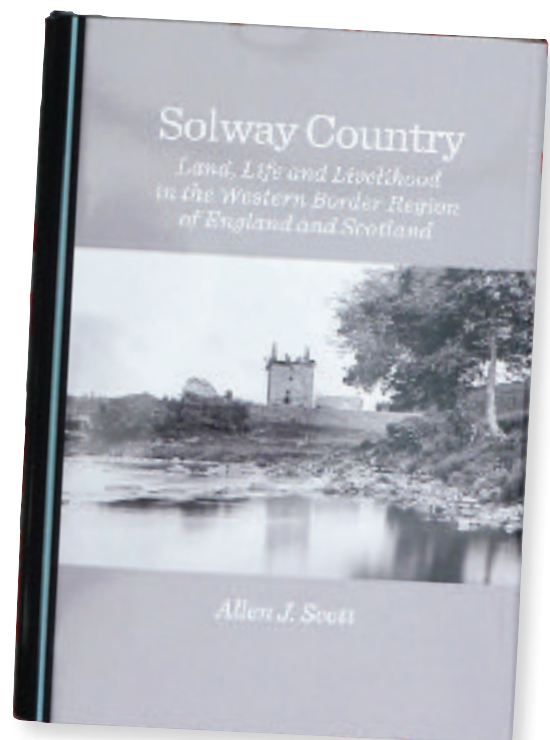
Land, Life and Livelihood in the Western Border Region of England and Scotland by Allen J. Scott

The Solway Country – the lands surrounding the inner Solway Firth – constitutes one of the many small regional worlds of the British Isles that are remarkable for the ways in which their landscapes evoke a powerful sense of territorial identity rooted not only in their physical appeal, but also in the richness and distinctiveness of their human history and geography. The Solway Country is typical of places like these.

Reviewing the Book

In his recent retirement from academic life in America Allen J. Scott has found time to delve into the history and geography of both sides of the Inner Solway and write a concise book packed with fascinating facts. Inspired by his early life in Carlisle he has been “pottering” around the “Solway Country” to discover the story of our land and present them in a way that we can compare and contrast the history of both England and Scotland.

This is a scholarly work that is very well researched and referenced and written in an academic language which occasionally has you reaching for the dictionary. It is a book that will appeal to those who want an overview of the region and have an interest in how our landscape has evolved from deep geological time to the present day. “Solway Country” will be of a particular interest to those who have a familiarity with the history of one side of the Solway but have yet to discover the delights of the other side.



About the Author

Allen J. Scott was raised in Carlisle where he attended St. Cuthbert's, the Creighton, and the Grammar Schools. Subsequent to his undergraduate and graduate education in England and the United States, he pursued an academic career, and has held appointments at universities in Europe, North America, and Asia. In 2012, he retired from the University of California at Los Angeles where he was Professor of Geography and Policy Studies and where he continues to hold the honorary rank of Distinguished Research Professor. He currently lives in Paris and Los Angeles, but is frequently to be found pottering around the Solway Country.

This book is available in hardback

ISBN-13:978-1-4438-6813-6

Price: £41.99

Accounts to March 2015

Solway Firth Partnership aims to undertake activities in line with our mission statement: To support a vibrant and sustainable local economy while respecting, protecting and celebrating the distinctive character, heritage and natural features of our marine and coastal area.

Our accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2015 show an income of £256,611 of

Restricted and Unrestricted funds (£204,920 in the previous financial year) giving us a surplus of £10,479 in our Unrestricted funds (draft until signed at AGM).

Several projects, including Out of the Blue, ran throughout this financial year, bringing in additional grants, a range of great fishy themed publications and interpretation, several exhibitions and also some good publicity for our local fisheries and seafood. Our thanks go to the staff team who have worked hard to make the projects a success during the year.

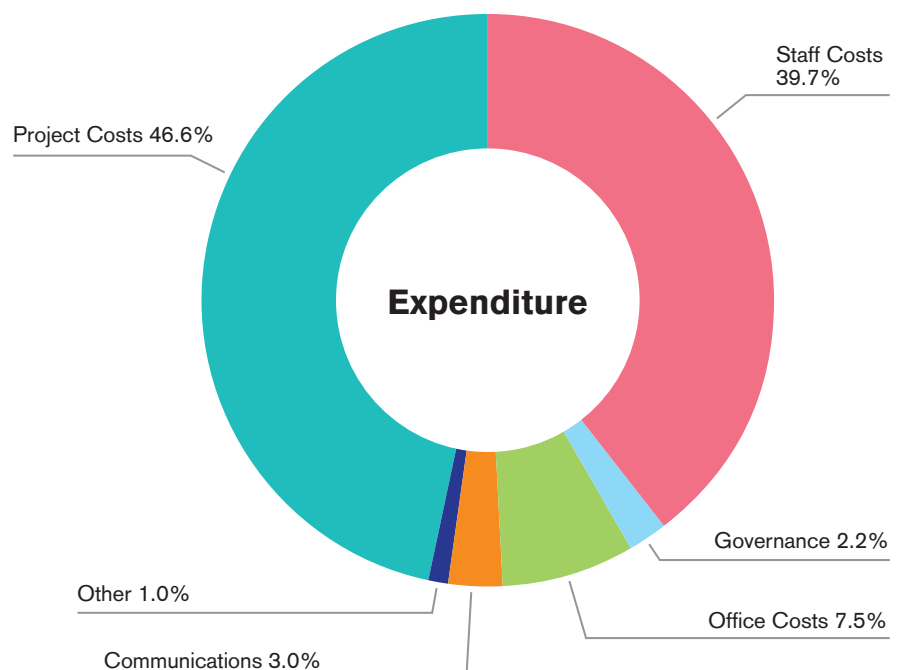
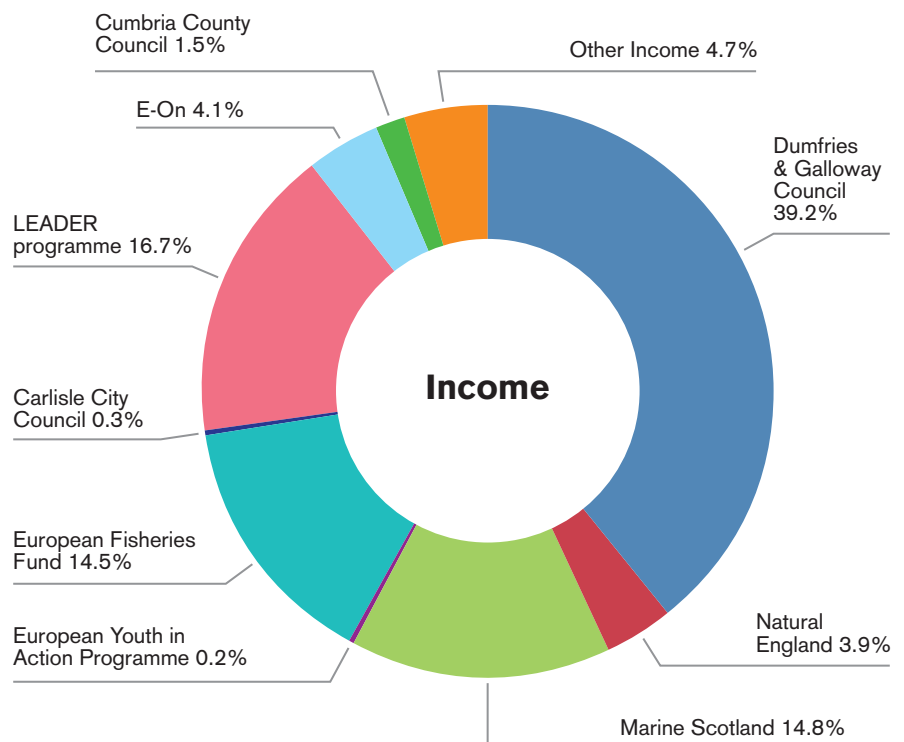
We are very grateful to all the organisations that have provided funding in the last financial year: Marine Scotland, Natural England, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Cumbria County Council, EON, Dumfries and Galloway LEADER Programme, European Fisheries Fund and Carlisle City Council.

We would also like to thank all the people who have given in-kind support in many ways, thereby enabling our core activities to continue as well as allowing a wide range of projects to go ahead. We appreciate that Solway Firth Partnership relies on the goodwill and expertise of many people and organisations in order to be able to carry out the work we do.

Our full accounts for the last financial year will soon be available on our website:

www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk

Clair McFarlan,
Solway Firth Partnership



Dates for your Diary

October 2015 – February 2016

October

Thursday 1 October

**Alien Invaders
(Manx Wildlife Trust) 7.00pm
Booking: Not required**

An illustrated talk by the Manx Wildlife Trust on marine invasive species; What's out there and how to spot them.

Contact: Lara Howe 01624 844432 or lara@manxwt.org.uk

Meet: Philip Christian Centre, Peel, Isle of Man

Cost: Free

1 to 31 October

**The Mull of Galloway Exhibition & Alexander Fraser Photography
(Logan Botanic Garden)
10.00am to 5.00pm daily
Booking: Not required**

An Exhibition highlighting the history and recent developments of the Mull of Galloway.

Contact: Richard Baines 01776 860231 or r.baines@rbge.uk/logan

Meet: Logan Botanic Garden, Port Logan, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, DG9 9ND

Cost: £6 Adults, £5 Concession, Children free

Thursday 1, Friday 2 and Sunday 4 October

**Dig for the Past on the Solway
(Holme Cultram Abbey, Abbeytown)
10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking: Not Required**

Get your hands dirty and discover 850 years of hidden Solway heritage by getting involved in a real archaeological excavation. Grampus Heritage are leading a 6 week dig on a variety of sites on the Solway Plain looking at the impact of the Medieval monastery of Holme Cultram Abbey in Abbeytown on the Solway Landscape. Call in anytime and chat to the archaeologists or help with a few jobs on site. Or get more involved by joining in becoming a volunteer, no matter how much or how little time you have on your hands. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Contact: For more information about location and programme phone 016973 33055 or e-mail info@solwaywetlands.org.uk

Meet: Holme Cultram Abbey, Abbeytown

Cost: Free

Thursday 1 October

**Bring a Friend Litter Picking Event
(Solway Coast AONB)
10.30am to 12.30pm
Booking: Essential**

This litter picking event will take place at the beach at Mawbray and gives the opportunity to encourage a friend to join in on an environment awareness day. We are all well aware of how important it is to improve our beaches and sand dunes and this can be quite easily achieved with a little work from us all. All equipment will be provided but please wear suitable clothing and bring a packed lunch.

Contact: Graeme Proud on 016973 33055 or email graeme.proud@allerdale.gov.uk

Meet: Mawbray Yard Car Park (just off the B5300 on the seaward side opposite the turn off to Mawbray).

Cost: Free

Thursdays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 October

**Mull of Galloway Guided Walk
(RSPB Mull of Galloway)
1.00pm Start
Booking: Not required**

Join the warden for a guided walk around the Mull of Galloway, a stunning location at any time of the year. Each season brings its own special experiences: from seabirds in spring, to flowers, butterflies and bugs in high summer and flocks of migrating birds in autumn. Also maybe see porpoise or basking shark if you're lucky. Bring binoculars if you have them, suitable clothing and stout footwear.

Contact: 01988 402130 or mullofgalloway@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB, Mull of Galloway, Drummole, DG9 9HP, NX155304

Cost: £1.50 members, £3 non-members, children free

Friday 2 October

**Crook of Baldoon Open Day
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)
10.00am to 3.00pm
Booking: Not Required**

Learn how the RSPB is improving habitats on its reserve for wildlife and our ongoing conservation work on this new reserve. There will be a small exhibition of work from local artists.

Contact: 01988 402130 or crookofbaldoon@rspb.org.uk

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AG, NX445530

Cost: Free

Sunday 4 October

**Shoresearch Survey
(Cumbria Wildlife Trust)
9.00am to 12.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Would you like to help record Cumbria's rocky shore species? If so, why not think about joining the marine team for a Shoresearch survey. Our Volunteer Shoresearch Leaders will guide you as you help to identify and record what you see on the rocky shore. Please bring sturdy footwear and appropriate clothing for the weather. Age 16+ only.

Contact: shoresearchnw@cumbriawildlifetrust.co.uk

Meet: Parton Beach, Parton, Cumbria

Cost: Free

Tuesdays 6, 13, 20, 27 October

**Mull of Galloway Guided Walk
(RSPB Mull of Galloway)
Details as previous**

Wednesday 7 October

**Caerlaverock Kids
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 11.00am
Booking: Essential**

Join our group for parents and toddlers. Take part in outdoor and nature activities at the Centre. Contact: 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, Under 4 and members free

Friday 9 and 30 October

**Nature Tots
(RSPB Mersehead)
10.00am to 11.30am
& 2.00pm to 3.30pm
Booking: Essential**

Whatever the weather, come along with your little nippers for this interactive wildlife trail. Play outdoor games and sing songs, followed by a story and a cup of tea or coffee (juice for the little ones).

Contact: 01387 780579 or mersehead@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: £2 Child



Whilst every effort is made to check the accuracy of the information given, Solway Firth Partnership cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or wrong information contained here and strongly recommends that you confirm details/arrangements/charges beforehand.



Friday 9 October

**Crosscanonby Salt Pans:
Restoration Work
(Solway AONB)
10.30am start
Booking: Essential**

Help with the continuing scrub clearance and weed removal in and around the historic salt pans area. Please bring a packed lunch and suitable clothing, all tools will be provided.

Contact: Graeme Proud on 016973 33055 or email graeme.proud@allerdale.gov.uk
Meet: Crosscanonby Carr Reserve Car Park off the B5300
Cost: Free

Sunday 11 October

**High Tide Perambulation
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)
11.00am to 1.00pm
Booking: Not Required**

Take a gentle stroll along the flood bank through natures home, watching for wildlife that use the muds and saltmarsh to feed being evicted by the advancing tide. Bring binoculars and walking boots.

Contact: 01988 402130 or crookofbaldoon@rspb.org.uk
Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AG, NX445530
Cost: £1.50 members, £3 non-members, children free

Sunday 11 October

**Dawn Flight
(WWT Caerlaverock)
6.45am Start
Booking: Essential**

Join the wardens as they open early to experience the wild geese flighting in against the dawn sky. The coffee shop will also be open early to provide hot drinks and bacon rolls. Bring warm, waterproof clothing, binoculars and a torch.

Contact: 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk
Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657
Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Tuesday 13 October

**Guided walk: Early Autumn Tints
(Logan Botanic Garden)
10.30am to 12.00noon
Booking: Not Essential**

Come along and enjoy a late autumn tour of the garden with the Curator. Garden highlights will include many grasses, Salvias, Dahlias and autumn flowering bulbs. This is an ideal time to ask those gardening questions that have always puzzled you!

Contact: Richard Baines 01776 860231 or r.baines@rbge.uk/logan
Meet: Logan Botanic Garden, Port Logan, Stranraer, Dumfries and Galloway, DG9 9ND
Cost: £6 Adults, £5 Concession, Children free

Thursday 15 October

**Bugs & Beasties
(Logan Botanic Garden)
2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Not required**

Run in conjunction with the RSPB
Contact: Richard Baines 01776 860231 or r.baines@rbge.uk/logan
Meet: Logan Botanic Garden, Port Logan, Stranraer, Dumfries and Galloway, DG9 9ND
Cost: £6 Adults, £5 Concession, Children free

Friday 16 October

**Tree Removal at Crosscanonby
Carr Reserve
(Solway AONB)
10.30am Start
Booking: Essential**

Help to remove some trees that have blown over towards the road up to Crosscanonby. All tools will be provided but please wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Contact: Graeme Proud on 016973 33055 or email graeme.proud@allerdale.gov.uk
Meet: Crosscanonby Carr Reserve Car Park off the B5300
Cost: Free

Saturday 17 October

**Sands of Luce Beach Clean
(Sands of Luce Caravan Park)
11.00am to 1.30pm
Booking: Not Required**

Come along and help RSPB to clear litter from the beach to help the local wildlife. Bring suitable clothing, footwear and gloves.

Contact: 01776 860231 or laura.shearer@rspb.org.uk
Meet: Sands of Luce Holiday Park, Sandhead, Stranraer, DG9 9JN
Cost: Free but donations welcome

Thursday 22 October

**Circular Guided Walk on
Campfield Marsh
(RSPB Campfield Marsh Reserve)
10.30am to 1.30pm**

Join a fascinating walk through the reserve, looking at the teeming wildlife that lives in the Solway Mosses. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear and bring a packed lunch. The walk will be over some uneven ground.

Contact: Graeme Proud on 016973 33055 or email graeme.proud@allerdale.gov.uk
Meet: Car park outside the new Wetlands Centre Barn, near Bowness on Solway,
Cost: Free

Thursday 22 October

**Ducking & Diving
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 2.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Learn to recognise some of the different types of ducks that visit Caerlaverock in the winter and see how they vary, depending on their feeding habits! Play games and take part in a variety of activities, including arts and crafts. Family event.

Contact: 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk
Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657
Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Thursday 22 October

**Make an Autumnal Mobile
(Logan Botanic Garden)
2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Not required**

Come along and make a mobile using all manner of nature's autumnal harvest. Guaranteed fun for all the family!

Contact: Richard Baines 01776 860231 or r.baines@rbge.uk/logan
Meet: Logan Botanic Garden, Port Logan, Stranraer, Dumfries and Galloway, DG9 9ND
Cost: £6 Adults, £5 Concession, Children free

Thursday 22 October

**The Big Blue
(Manx Wildlife Trust)
7.30pm
Booking: Not required**

A talk by local celebrity Steve Wright, entitled The Big Blue – Isle of Man. He's a local wildlife film maker who is going to present a collection of his film footage focusing on marine and coastal species, including whales and dolphins.

Contact: Lara Howe 01624 844432 or lara@manxwt.org.uk
Meet: Nobles Park Pavilion, Douglas, Isle of Man
Cost: £2



Saturday 24 October

**Hedge Laying
(Great Orton)
10.00am to 3.30pm
Booking: Essential**

Join expert Ed Kyrke to learn this ancient art from scratch or improve your skills while helping to conserve a traditional feature of the Solway landscape. All tools will be provided but bring warm, waterproof clothing you don't mind getting dirty and a packed lunch.

Contact: To book, either complete the booking form on the website <http://www.solwaywetlands.org.uk/events> or contact the team at info@solwaywetlands.org.uk or on 016973 33055.

Meet: Orton Moss, near Great Orton, south of Kirkbampton

Cost: Free

Saturday 24 October

**Pumpkin Carving
(WWT Caerlaverock)
2.00pm to 5.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Use inspiration from the wildfowl at Caerlaverock to carve your own pumpkin.

Contact: 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Sunday 25 October

**Dusk Flight
(WWT Caerlaverock)
4.30pm to 6.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Watch the barnacle geese flight out to the Solway mudflats to their night-time roost. Bring warm, waterproof clothing, binoculars and a torch.

Contact: 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Glencaple, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Tuesday 27 October

**Bring a Friend Litter Picking Event
(Solway Coast AONB)
10.30am to 12.30pm
Booking: Essential**

This litter picking event will take place at the beach at Wolsty and gives the opportunity to encourage a friend to join in on an environment awareness day. We are all well aware of how important it is to improve our beaches and sand dunes and this can be quite easily achieved with a little work from us all. All equipment will be provided but please wear suitable clothing and bring a packed lunch.

Contact: Graeme Proud on 016973 33055 or email graeme.proud@allerdale.gov.uk

Meet: Wolsty Road End Car Park (just off the B5300 on the seaward side opposite the turn-off to Wolsty)

Cost: Free

Saturday 31 October

**Barnacle Goose Watch
(RSPB Mersehead)
3.30pm to 6.30pm
Booking: Essential**

Come and watch the spectacular arrival of over 30,000 Svalbard barnacle geese as they go to roost in the Solway Firth. Enjoy a warming drink after your bracing walk.

Contact: 01387 780579 or mersehead@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: £4 for adults, £2 children, £3 Adult members, £1.50 child members

Saturday 31 October

**Spooky Solway
(Finglandrigg Wood)
6.30pm start
Booking: Essential**

Dare you join the phantoms of Fingland and take a walk into the dark woods on the spookiest night of the year? Discover the myths and legends of the Solway and the wildlife of the woods. Dressing up welcome.

Contact: To book, either complete the booking form on the website <http://www.solwaywetlands.org.uk/events> or contact the team at info@solwaywetlands.org.uk or on 016973 33055.

Meet: Finglandrigg Wood NNR, near Kirkbampton, CA5 6JD

Cost: Free

November

Sunday 1 November

**High Tide Perambulation
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)
2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Not Required**

Take a gentle stroll along the flood bank through nature's home, watching for wildlife that use the muds and saltmarsh to feed being evicted by the advancing tide. Bring binoculars and walking boots.

Contact: 01988 402130 or crookofbaldoon@rspb.org.uk

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AG, NX445530

Cost: £1.50 members, £3 non-members, children free

Monday 2 November

**Autumnwatch at WWT Caerlaverock
(WWT Caerlaverock)
All week
Booking: Not Required**

The BBC will film the 2015 Autumnwatch at WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre.

The programme will air on BBC2 all week.

Contact: 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, DG1 4RS

Saturday 7 November

**Solway Hidden Heritage Forum
(Solway Wetlands)
10.00am to 3.30pm
Booking: Essential**

A whole day of talks, walks and workshops celebrating the rich history and archaeology of the Solway. A full programme and location details will be posted here nearer the time. Lunch will be provided.

Contact: To book, either complete the booking form on the website <http://www.solwaywetlands.org.uk/events> or contact the team at info@solwaywetlands.org.uk or on 016973 33055

Meet: To be announced nearer the time

Cost: Free

Thursday 12 November

**Rocky Shore Identification
Workshop
(Cumbria Wildlife Trust)
6.00pm to 8.30pm
Booking: Essential**

Come and join our marine team in the classroom to take a closer look at common rocky shore species found in the North West. No previous experience necessary. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult

Book: 01539 816300 or mail@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk

Meet: Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Plumgarths Crook Rd, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 8LX

Cost: Free

Friday 13 & 27 November

**Nature Tots
(RSPB Mersehead)
10.00am to 11.30am and 2.00pm to 3.30pm**

Details as previous

Saturday 14 November

**Landscape Photography on the
Solway
(RSPB Campfield Marsh)
10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Landscape Photography on the Solway is a workshop aimed at beginners / improvers looking at the beautiful Solway in autumn, and will include some 'classroom' time as well as outdoor practical work. This session will be led by Steve Blake, a local landscape photographer, who will be on hand to give you hints and tips throughout the day as part of a group and also on a one to one basis. The day will include walking on possible wet/uneven ground for up to 5km (3 miles), you will need to bring appropriate footwear/clothing for the day and will need to bring a packed lunch as well as your own equipment. More information about Steve Blake can be found on his website www.steveblakephotography.co.uk

Contact: To book, either complete the booking form on the website <http://www.solwaywetlands.org.uk/events> or contact the team at info@solwaywetlands.org.uk or on 016973 33055

Meet: The Solway Wetlands Centre at RSPB Campfield Marsh, 1.5 miles west of Bowness on Solway

Cost: Free

Saturday 14 November

**Barnacle Goose Watch
(RSPB Mersehead)
3.30pm to 6.30pm
Booking: Essential**

Come and watch the spectacular arrival of over 30,000 Svalbard barnacle geese as they go to roost in the Solway Firth. Enjoy a warming drink after your bracing walk.

Contact: 01387 780579 or mersehead@rspb.org.uk

Meet: RSPB Reserve, Mersehead, DG2 8AH, NX925561

Cost: £4 for adults, £2 children, £3 Adult members, £1.50 child members





Sunday 15 November

**Dawn Flight
(WWT Caerlaverock)
From 6.30am**

Details as previous

Saturday 22 November

**What's that Goose?
(WWT Caerlaverock)
1.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Join WWT experts to find and identify geese and the other wildfowl wintering at this world renowned wetland reserve.

Contact: 01387 770200 or
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Saturday 28 November

**Christmas from Nature
(RSPB Campfield Marsh)
11.00am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Join local forager John Crouch on a walk and workshop to find natural resources and use them to create your own Christmas and winter themed decorations. Come along to one or both of these 1.5 hour long workshops.

Contact: To book, either complete the booking form on the website <http://www.solwaywetlands.org.uk/events> or contact the team at info@solwaywetlands.org.uk or on 016973 33055

Meet: RSPB Campfield Marsh, Bowness-on-Solway, CA7 5AG

Cost: Free

Sunday 28 November

**Wildlife Photography for Beginners
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Special beginners photography workshop with Tom Langlands and Bob Fitzsimmons. Learn how to take fantastic macro photographs of the insects and flowers present on the reserve.

Contact: 01387 770200 or
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, DG1 4RS NY052657

Cost: £60

Sunday 29 November

**High Tide Perambulation
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)
12.30pm to 2.30pm**

Details as previous

December

Wednesday 2 December

**Caerlaverock Kids
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 11.00am**

Details as previous

Thursday 3 December

**Solway Firth Partnership Annual
General Meeting
Tullie House Museum, Carlisle
12.30pm to 1.00pm
Booking: Essential**

You are invited to the 11th Annual General Meeting of Solway Firth Partnership. Anyone interested in becoming a member of Solway Firth Partnership and therefore eligible to vote at the AGM should get in touch.

Contact: The Company Secretary or Partnership Manager on 01387 702161 or e-mail info@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk

Meet: Lecture Theatre, Tullie House Museum, Castle Street, Carlisle, CA3 8TP

Cost: Free but booking required to allow catering for lunch

Sunday 6 December

**Dawn Flight
(WWT Caerlaverock)
7.00am Start**

Details as previous

Friday 11 December

**Nature Tots
(RSPB Mersehead)
10.00am to 11.30am and 2.00pm to 3.30pm**

Details as previous

Saturday 12 December

**Caerlaverock Christmas Fayre
(WWT Caerlaverock)
1.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Not required**

Visit a wide range of craft and food stalls at WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre Christmas Fayre.

Contact: 01387 770200 or
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Saturday 26 December

**Boxing Day Walk
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)
2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Not Required**

Need a walk after your festivities? Join the warden for a stroll along the flood bank and get some fresh Wigtownshire air. Bring binoculars and walking boots.

Contact: 01988 402130 or
crookofbaldoon@rspb.org.uk

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AG, NX445530

Cost: £1.50 members, £3 non-members, children free

January

Friday 1 January

**New Year's Day Bird Race
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking: Not required**

Start the year by challenging our warden to see how many bird species you can spot in a day.

Contact: 01387 770200 or
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: £7.99 Adult, £6.10 Concession, £3.90 Young person, £21.40 Family, under 4 and members free

Sunday 3 January

**Dawn Flight
(WWT Caerlaverock)
7.15am Start**

Details as previous

Sunday 3 January

**In Focus
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking: Not Essential**

Try before you buy the latest binoculars and telescopes from the huge range available today. In Focus experts on hand all day to give advice. WWT Caerlaverock benefits from every sale.

Contact: Pam Mundy 01387 770200 or
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Free

Sunday 3 January

**New Year Walk
(RSPB Crook of Baldoon)
2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking: Not Required**

Need a walk after your festivities? Join the warden for a stroll along the flood bank and get some fresh Wigtownshire air. Bring binoculars and walking boots.

Contact: 01988 402130 or
crookofbaldoon@rspb.org.uk

Meet: Crook of Baldoon Nature Reserve, Wigtown, DG8 9AG, NX445530

Cost: £1.50 members, £3 non-members, children free

Saturday 9 January

**Willow Lantern Workshop
(WWT Caerlaverock)
10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking: Essential**

Drop in to WWT Caerlaverock and make your own lantern from willow and tissue paper. This event is in preparation for the Big Burns Night Supper event where we will parade our lanterns down the streets of Dumfries! All ages welcome.

Contact: 01387 770200 or
info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

Meet: WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Eastpark Farm, Caerlaverock, Dumfriesshire, DG1 4RS, NY052657

Cost: Free





For further information, to submit an article or to join the SFP mailing list please contact:
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