

NITH LIFE

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

We were approved as a charity by O.S.C.R. on July 27th, 2024. We are Charity No: 53508.

The purposes of our organisation are

- A) Environmental protection and improvement
- B) Arts, heritage, culture and science
- C) Education

Contact Address : Longbank, Dunscore, Dumfries, DG2 0TD

E-mail : hello@nithlife.co.uk (manned by volunteers)

At July 2024 our trustees were John Wheeler (chair), Jakob Kaye (treasurer), and Sue Walker.

The board meets quarterly.

Our **Working Group** currently comprising 11 members meets monthly.

Website address : <https://nithlife.co.uk>

Over a gestation period of several years a group of individuals all with an affinity to the river, environment and culture in Dumfriesshire coalesced around the themes of advancement of environmental protection, arts, heritage, culture science, and education: these now form the purposes of our constitution.

During that early period, we were inspired amongst others by James Rebanks' 'English Pastoral' which led to the Eden Rivers Trust providing invaluable guidance. We were also fortunate to be a recipient of the benefits provided by The Stove Community and Arts Organisation in Dumfries as part of what they called their Open Hoose Project. This project purposefully nurtured community organisations, particularly those following a sustainability theme. We have a Memorandum of Agreement with the Stove.

Our other invaluable supporter, proved to be the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, who have supported us with free administration time, facilities, publicity, and massive moral support.

All this has carried us to this point on a shoestring budget, and we are currently actively researching the most effective possibilities for funding to consolidate an enhanced administrative ability and extend the reach of our efforts.

This lack of funds and manpower has held back development of our social media offering and promotion of our activities. We are striving to address this.

Below is our record of Monthly Public Meeting Activities held from July 2024 to July 2025.

Nith Life Public Meeting Activities 2024

Date	Time	Location	Meeting type	Topic/Speaker	Number of Attendees
30th July 2024	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Presentation on Bats by Freda Sneddon	26
24th Sept 2024	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Presentation : Dr. Michael Muir University of Glasgow	27
29th October 2024	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Presentation: Spiders - Malcolm Haddow SWSEIC	29
26th November 2024	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Presentation: Antione Le Mair, The Glenmidge Burn Project	24

Nith Life Public Meeting Activities 2025

Date	Time	Location	Meeting type	Topic/Speaker	Number of Attendees
28 th January 2025	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Presentations:- RAW Restoring Annan Water -Peter Dreghorn & Down by the River - Brian Walker	25
25th February 2025	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Speaker no-show. General discussions	11
25 th March 2025	5.30-8pm	The Stove	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Anna Austin, Estate Manager: Presentation by Caerlaverock Estate Restoration	23
29 th April 2025	5.30-8pm	The Tam O Shanta Dumfries	Nith Life Group Public Mtg	Anna Griffin Presentation on SEPA	10
24 th & 25 th May 2025	All day 24th &	Sanquhar	Sanquhar Arts Festival	Organised by David Rushton MERZ & Marion Milliner	40

	25th May			Nith Life participation	
27 th May 2025	6-9pm	Barjarg	Nith Life Group Public Event	Barjarg History Walk - organised by Ben Hobman	12
21 st June 2025	6-11pm	Ellisland	Nith Life Group Public Event	A Midsummer's Nith Life Dream, Ellisland Organised by Ben Hobman	11
29 th July 2025	5.45-8pm	New Cumnock	Nith Life Group Public Event	Lagoons Walk, New Cumnock. Organised by Abigail Galton	14

Planned for up-coming months

- The Wild Goose Fest, perhaps in conjunction again with D&G Museums. Present Larry Griffiths' resume of his research
- Nithraid a community wide boatrace and town-centre environmental event in which we would support Eco-art.
- Possible planting of trees and hedgerows on the Laggan-side Glebe land with D G Woodlands.

We believe that we have punched above our weight in spreading the word over our time in existence and aim to continue to do so. Numbers attending our meetings, field visits and talks have normally seen 20 or more people in attendance and knowledge passed on during these events has been immeasurable. If there is one regret it is that our group tend to be in the older generations and one of the objectives of a development officer should be to encourage more younger participants.

Collaboration with other groups such as The Glenmidge Burn project, Dumfries and Galloway Woodlands and Glasgow university have further enlightened both our group and those we have interacted with.

Our group has had the benefit of wisdom or input from film makers, teachers, students, poets, storytellers, musicians, hydrologists, peatland specialists, foresters, doctors, fishermen, farmers, fly tiers, archivists, historians, architects and naturalists from all avenues from botany to ornithology.

We aim to continue to give this extremely diverse view of the Nith catchments a platform to inspire and enlighten many more of the people of the area within the watershed.

Our way forward sees our securing funding which could enable us to develop the themes which were highlighted in the report of the Ketso which was researched throughout the catchment in 2023. There is the possibility to add projects which align with our constitution purposes in the support of these environmental themes.

We have a vibrant membership who are impatient to help with the development of our ambitious group.

Trustees' Annual Report – Treasurer's Statement

Reporting Period: 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025

Financial Review

During the reporting period, **Nith Life carried out no financial activity.**

In particular:

- The charity received **no income** from any source, including grants, donations, subscriptions, or trading activity
- The charity incurred **no expenditure**
- No funding applications were made or awarded
- No financial transactions took place

As a result, the charity had **nil income and nil expenditure** for the period.

Banking, Assets, and Liabilities

During the reporting period:

- Nith Life **did not operate a bank account**
- The charity held **no cash, reserves, or financial assets**
- The charity had **no liabilities or financial commitments**

Financial Position

At the end of the reporting period, the charity's financial position was as follows:

- **Cash at bank and in hand: £0**

- **Total assets:** £0
- **Total liabilities:** £0

The charity therefore had **no unrestricted or restricted funds** at the period end.

Financial Controls and Procedures

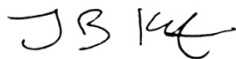
As no financial activity took place during the period, no financial controls or accounting systems were required to be operated. The trustees were aware of and approved the charity's dormant financial status throughout the reporting period.

Statement of Responsibility

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for keeping adequate accounting records and for preparing accounts which comply with the **Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations**. Given the absence of financial activity, no receipts and payments account was required beyond this statement.

Treasurer's Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this statement is **true, accurate, and complete**, and correctly reflects the financial position of Nith Life for the period stated.



Signed:

Jakob Kaye

Treasurer and Trustee, Nith Life

Date: 21st April 2026