

What's on



AUTUMN/WINTER

2011-12

Events and activities... for all the family



SUPPORTING
SCOTLAND
OF FOOD & DRINK

Look out for events that celebrate Scottish food and provide you with true Scottish produce

www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk

Lochwinnoch Community Walks take place every Monday (but not on Public Holidays) – meet 10:30 at The Cross, Lochwinnoch.



Slinky Strollers (parents and pushchairs) take place every Thursday - meet 10.30 at Castle Semple Visitor Centre. Allow 1.5 hours, contact the Rangers for more information and details of winter and summer breaks.

Outdoor Activity Courses

such as kayaking, sailing, archery, map and compass skills run all season primarily at Castle Semple. Some courses are listed, please look on the web www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk for the latest course dates or contact the Centre to make your own group booking.



Boat Hire

Zorbs, row boats and kayaks are available for hire every weekend and school holiday until the end of October. Contact Andy of North Adventure on 07949 984 181 for more information and operating hours.

Walks & Talks

Our Countryside Rangers are available to give talks to groups, advice on walks, wildlife or any countryside issue. Contact them to discuss your requirements.



Bike Hire

Mountain, Electric, Comfort and Children's bikes plus tag-a-long, tandems and trailers are available for hire most weekends and school holiday at Castle Semple. Contact Martin of Express Cycle Repairs on 07867 790 889 to arrange hire out with these times.



2011 is International Year of Forests and the Year of the Bat, look out for events and activities to celebrate this special year.



Please NOTE

- All events, walks and activities must be booked in advance unless otherwise stated.
- For walks and land based activities you should always have warm clothing, waterproofs, walking boots or sturdy shoes.
- For all water based activities bring a complete change of warm clothes including shoes and shower equipment.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult for all events and family fun sessions.
- Numbers can be limited and age restrictions apply for others - to avoid disappointment, always contact the Centre in advance to check.

Park Postcodes *see back page for map and telephone numbers*

Park HQ & Barnbrock Campsite	PA10 2PZ
Castle Semple Visitor Centre ..	PA12 4EA
Muirshiel Visitor Centre	PA12 4LB
Greenock Cut Visitor Centre	PA16 9LX
Lunderston Bay	PA19 1AA



Sun 2 Oct Autumn Helping Hands

Build bird, bat and bug boxes to help our native wildlife over the winter months into spring.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458 & bookings

Sun 9 Oct Cheerio Hedgehogs

Come and join the Rangers and the local Hedgehog Street coordinator to celebrate hedgehogs heading into hibernation with fun autumnal arts and crafts.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre

WHEN: 14.00 - 16.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Fri 21 Oct Photographic Competition Closing Date

Remember to get your entries in to any Visitor Centre by 15.00 hrs today.

Sun 23 Oct Country Craft Demonstration

A practical demonstration of a traditional country craft with the option to have a wee go yourself

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre

WHEN: 14.00 - 15.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings

Sun 23 Oct Hallowe'en Bat Shadow Puppet Show

A puppet drama telling the legend of how bats became nocturnal creatures.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre

WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458 & bookings



Fri 28 Oct Star Gazing Evening

An evening with our friends from the Coats Observatory in Paisley at one of the few dark sky sites in Renfrewshire. Indoor lecture if the weather is unsuitable for viewing.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre

WHEN: 19:00 - 21:00 hrs

MORE INFO: 01505 842 803 & bookings

Sat 29 & Sun 30 Oct Spooky Scavenger Hunt

Pick up a sheet at the visitor centre and go on a spooky scavenger hunt in Parkhill Woods looking for goblins' eyes and fairy wings!

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre

WHEN: Anytime between 10.30-15.30

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20

Sun 30 Oct Autumn Craft Fair

A selection of beautiful handmade items on offer in the Semple Rooms.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre

WHEN: Daily 10.00 - 16.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20

Wed 2 Nov Auchenmaid Hill - Feeling Fitter Walk

A Level 2A, Circular 11.9Km/7.5 m walk. Starting at Largs Railway station. This is a strenuous walk with a steep climb by Flatt Farm and along the path to Greeto Bridge. Then across rough open country to visit a waterfall at the Gogo Burn before returning to the station by way of Auchenmaid Hill.

MEET: Largs Railway Station

WHEN: 11.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Sat 5 Nov - Sat 3 Dec Photographic Competition On Tour

A display of prize winners and entries from the "Woods of Clyde Muirshiel" photographic competition. Exhibition opens at Castle Semple before it tours around the park.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre

WHEN: Daily 10.00 - 16.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20

Wed 16 Nov Collegiate Church Feeling Fitter Walk

A Level 1B, circular 6.4Km/4.0m walk. From the centre we visit the Collegiate Church then explore other historical features of Parkhill Wood including the rhododendron maze. This walk is mainly on surfaced paths but can be rough and muddy underfoot.

MEET: Castle Semple Visitor Centre

WHEN: 13.00 hrs

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Sun 20 Nov Muirshiel Winter Woodland Walk

Join the ranger for a look at the variety of trees round the trails in this old estate woodland.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre

WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs & bookings

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings



Thur 24 Nov Christmas Shopping Night

Pick up some bargains for Christmas presents with our late evening opening. 10% discount on all Christmas gifts. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: drop in between 18.00 - 21.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20

Fri 25 Nov Star Gazing Evening

An evening with our friends from the Coats Observatory in Paisley at one of the few dark sky sites in Renfrewshire. Indoor lecture if the weather is unsuitable for viewing.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 19:00 – 21:00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings



Sun 27 Nov Tree Decoder Challenge

2011 is the International Year of the Forest. Head into Parkhill Woods to learn how to identify trees with this twist to orienteering

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11.00 - 15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20

Wed 30 Nov Lyle Hill - Feeling Fitter Walk

A Level 2, Linear 8.3Km/5.2m walk. Starting at Gourock Pier/railway station before climbing gently to Tower Hill. Features include Gourock Park, Coves community woodland and reservoirs, the Free French Memorial on Lyle Hill, Highland Mary's grave to Greenock Central station. Walk mainly on paths, pavements or tracks.

MEET: Gourock Pier/Railway Station finish
Greenock Central
WHEN: 11.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Sun 4 Dec Lochwinnoch Festive Farmers Market

Enjoy the lochside location as you purchase fresh produce and drinks from local suppliers. Stalls inside and out. Free prize draw to win a hamper full of tasty produce.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11.00 – 14.30 hrs or until sold out
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex20

Wed 7 Dec Festive Tinsel Walk

A circular 5.0Km/3.1m walk, suitable for everyone! Come and join us for this festive walk around Lochwinnoch. Tickle your tonsils with the tunes of Christmas and wear a festive hat or a bit of tinsel.

MEET: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings



Sat 10 Dec – Sun 5 Feb 'Woods of Clyde Muirshiel' Exhibition on Tour

A display of prize winners and entries from the 2011 photographic competition.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11.00 - 15.00 hrs (weekends only)
MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458



Fri 16 Dec Star Gazing Evening

An evening with our friends from the Coats Observatory in Paisley at one of the few dark sky sites in Renfrewshire. Indoor lecture if the weather is unsuitable for viewing.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 19:00 – 21:00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings



Sat 17 and Sun 18 Dec Christmas Decorations

Join the rangers to make your own individual Christmas Decorations from natural materials. Help our feathered friends out too with bird feeders for your garden.

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458 & bookings



Sun 18 Dec Natural Christmas Decorations

Using natural materials get into the festive spirit with the rangers making yule decorations.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 13.00 - 14.00 hrs & 14.15 - 15.15 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Sat 24 Dec – Wed 7 Jan Festive Fresh Air & Winter Warmers

Escape outdoors to enjoy a little fresh air and exercise - all park sites are open daily. Castle Semple Visitor Centre is open regular winter hours but closes at 14.00 hrs on Sat 24 and 31 Dec and re-opens at 12noon on Mon 26 Dec and Mon 2 Jan with lots of warm drinks on offer.

Muirshiel Visitor Centre and Greenock Cut Visitor Centre are open at weekends during the winter season although close at 14.00 hrs on Sat 24 and 31 Dec. Both Centres reopen Sat 7 Jan. All walks and trails open all year round.

Sun 8 Jan Adopt a Beach

Help clean up your local beach after the winter storms. Gloves, binbags and litterpickers provided. Record the litter collected and results will be sent to the Marine Conservation Society to be included in their UK wide beach survey.

WHERE: Lunderston Bay, near Gourock
WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458 & bookings

Mon 9 Jan Lochwinnoch Community Walk

These weekly walks start again, come along today or any Monday for wee bit of exercise and a good chat.

MEET: McKillop Centre, Lochwinnoch
WHEN: Every Monday apart from public holidays at 10.30 hrs (until early Dec)
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 22



Thurs 12 Jan Slinky Strollers

The first parent and pushchair walk of 2012. Get to know your local area and other new parents.

MEET: Castle Semple
WHEN: 10.30 hrs every week. Allow 1 - 1.5 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 22

Fri 13 Jan Star Gazing Evening

An evening with our friends from the Coats Observatory in Paisley at one of the few dark sky sites in Renfrewshire. Indoor lecture if the weather is unsuitable for viewing.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 19:00 - 21:00 hrs
MORE INFO: 01505 842 803 & bookings

Fri 20 Jan - Tue 7 Feb Art in the Park

Annual Exhibition of traditional and contemporary works by Lochwinnoch Art Group. Some works are available to purchase.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitors Centre
WHEN: 10.00 to 15.30 hrs daily
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 ext 20

Sun 29 Jan Country Craft Demonstration

A practical demonstration of a traditional country craft with the option to have a go yourself.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 14.00-15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings

Sun 29 Jan Frosted Sculpture Walk - Part 1

Come and collect natural materials on a short walk and then arrange them to make an ice sculpture.

MEET: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 13.30 - 15.30 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Sun 5 Feb Frosted Sculpture Walk - Part 2

Hang up some of the sculptures you made last weekend around the country park and take some home as well.

MEET: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 13.30 - 15.30 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20 & bookings

Sun 5 Feb Green Wood Working at GCVC

Watch the rangers cleave freshly cut green wood and fashion it into useful items using traditional techniques - then have a go yourself!

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458 & bookings

Sat 11 Feb - Sun 22 Apr Photographic Competition on Tour

A display of prize winners and entries from the 2011 competition.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11.00-15.00 hrs (weekends only until April)
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803

Sun 12 Feb Orienteering

For regular orienteers and beginners of all ages. Run round the moor with a map and find the control markers. Organised by Clydeside Orienteers

MEET: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: Courses start 10.30 to 12.00.
all details to be confirmed.

MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 or
www.clydesideorienteers.org.uk

Fri 17 Feb Star Gazing Evening

An evening with our friends from the Coats Observatory in Paisley at one of the few dark sky sites in Renfrewshire. Indoor lecture if the weather is unsuitable for viewing.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 19:00 - 21:00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings



Tue 28 Feb – Tue 13 Mar Fairtrade Fortnight 2011

Find out about Fairtrade, enjoy a coffee, some chocolate and other Fairtrade goods in a warm scenic location. Support Lochwinnoch, a Fairtrade village since 2008.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: All day
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 ext 20

Wed 29 Feb Tartan Walk

A Circular 5.0Km/3.1m walk, suitable for all levels. Come and join us for this walk around Lochwinnoch. Look out your tartan gear and leap into some of those Scottish tunes as we wander around the village. Walk is suitable for all grades with the walk being carried out on paths, pavements and tracks.

MEET: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex 20



Fri 23 Mar Star Gazing Evening

An evening with our friends from the Coats Observatory in Paisley at one of the few dark sky sites in Renfrewshire. Indoor lecture if the weather is unsuitable for viewing.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 19:00 – 21:00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings

Sat 24 Mar Craft Fair

A second chance to celebrate Lochwinnoch Arts Festival and visit Castle Semple for a browse around this local craft fair, you are sure to find something unique.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11:00 – 15:00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex20

Sun 25 Mar British Trust for Ornithology Practical Birding Day

Join the rangers and the local BTO ringer for a series of different activities. We will start with a ringing session and then learn about the BTO nestbox challenge by building your own box to survey. Then finish with a session on identifying common birds seen in the area by sight and sound.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 08.00 - 15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex20 & bookings

Sat 31 Mar Open for Summer

Summer opening hours begin at all Visitor Centres, drop in and chat to a ranger or stop for a coffee and admire the beautiful countryside.

WHERE: All Centres
WHEN: Castle Semple 10.00 - 17.00 hrs daily
Muirshiel and Greenock Cut
11.00 - 16.00 hrs daily

Mon 2 Apr - Fri 6 Apr & Mon 9 - Fri 13 Apr Junior Multi Activity Weeks

An opportunity to try different outdoor activities and make new friends.

WHERE: Castle Semple
WHEN: Five FULL Days 10:00 - 15:30 on either week
COST: £145
MORE INFO: Advanced booking ASAP 01505 842 882 Ex 20

Sun 8 April Easter Sunday

Go for a walk in the woods and see if you can see an Easter bunny or hare!



Sun 4 Mar Hen Harrier talk

An illustrated talk showing in-nest highlights of this very rare species which nests on the Renfrewshire Heights Special Protection Area.

WHERE: Muirshiel Visitor Centre
WHEN: 14.00-15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 803 & bookings

Sat 17 Mar Craft Fair

Celebrate Lochwinnoch Arts Festival and visit Castle Semple for a browse around this local craft fair, you are sure to find something unique.

WHERE: Castle Semple Visitor Centre
WHEN: 11:00 – 15:00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01505 842 882 Ex20

Sun 18 Mar Chainsaw Carving Demonstration

From how to carve wood using the old fashioned method (green wood working) to the more modern one (chainsaw!).

WHERE: Greenock Cut Visitor Centre
WHEN: 13.00 - 15.00 hrs
MORE INFO: tel 01475 521 458 & bookings

ACTIVITY COURSES 2011/12

More information and extra dates are available online or contact David or Willie tel 01505 842 882 Ex 21 to organise your own group booking (4 people min).

SAILING

Adults

RYA Dinghy Level 1

15 & 16 Oct
22 & 23 Oct
25 & 26 Feb
24 & 25 Mar

RYA Dinghy Level 2

22 & 23 Oct
3 & 4 March
10 & 11 Mar
17 & 18 Mar
24 & 25 Mar
14 & 15 Apr



RYA Dinghy Level 3

Seamanship Skills

18 & 19 Feb
10 & 11 Mar

Single hander Clinic

10 Mar
17 Mar
18 Mar
24 Mar
25 Mar
31 Mar
14 Apr

Juniors

RYA Dinghy Stage 1

31 Mar & 1 Apr
5 & 6 Apr
12 & 13 Apr

RYA Dinghy Stage 2

17 & 18 Oct
2 & 3 Apr
9 & 10 Apr

RYA Dinghy Stage 3

24 & 25 Mar

Kayaking & Canoeing

Adults

BCU 1 Star
25 Mar

BCU 2 Star Training

18 & 19 Feb
17 & 18 Mar
28 & 29 Apr

BCU 2 Star Assessment

22 Oct
3 Mar
10 Mar

BCU 3 Star Kayak Flat Water Training & Assessment

30 Oct



BCU 3 Star Kayak River Training

1 & 2 Oct
3 & 4 Mar
21 & 22 Apr

BCU 3 Star Canoe Training

3 & 4 Mar
14 & 15 Apr

Foundation Safety & Rescue Training

8 Oct
26 Feb
25 Mar

Juniors

BCU Paddle Power Passport

20 & 21 Oct
31 Mar & 1 Apr
2 & 3 Apr
9 & 10 Apr

BCU Paddle Power Discover

24 & 25 Mar

POWERBOATING

RYA Level 2 Powerboating

8 & 9 Oct
29 & 30 Oct
5 & 6 Nov
19 & 20 Nov
3 & 4 Dec
14 & 15 Jan
21 & 22 Jan
11 & 12 Feb
25 & 26 Feb
17 & 18 Mar

Junior Multi Activity

5 half days
17 to 21 Oct

5 full days

2 to 6 Apr
9 to 13 Apr

Map and Compass

4 Mar
1 Apr

2 day

24 & 25 Mar
14 & 15 Apr
28 & 29 Apr

Mountain Bike Maintenance

By Arrangement

Archery

By Arrangement

First Aid

By Arrangement





Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park
Tel 01505 842 882

www.clydemuirshiel.co.uk
email info@clydemuirshiel.co.uk



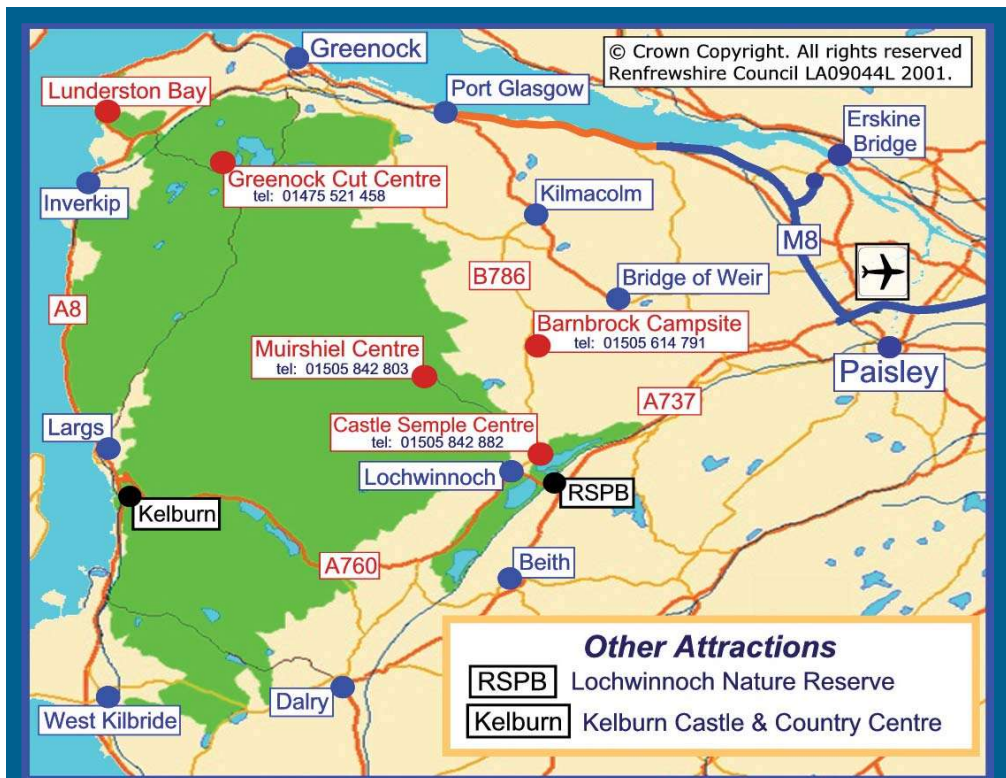
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The Great Escape ...for a healthy family day out or outdoor activities in Scotland's largest Regional Park

It is right on your doorstep, just 20 minutes west of Glasgow or north of Irvine



Why not leave the car at home and visit the Regional Park by public transport?
Visit www.travelinescotland.com or phone 08712 002 233 for details.



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Please Recycle this Publication



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