

## NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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## Lothian conservation volunteers clock up hundreds of hours for heritage

Dedicated volunteers with the National Trust for Scotland's Lothian Conservation Volunteer Group completed more than 2,949 hours work conserving and promoting Scotland's heritage last year, the charity has revealed.

And now, the hardworking volunteers have unveiled their programme for the next few months.

The group will be working on projects at properties cared for by the National Trust for Scotland, the charity that conserves and promotes Scotland's heritage, across the whole of Scotland, including Balmacara in the North West Highlands and Rockcliffe Nature Reserve in Dumfries and Galloway. They also help closer to home, at sites across the Borders, Lothians and Fife and are always looking for new members.

Conservation Volunteer Co-ordinator Julie Bond said:

"Our conservation volunteers make a massive contribution to the care of the Trust's 200,000 acres of countryside, historic estates and beautiful gardens. They've got a packed programme of activities planned for the next few months. As the days start to grow longer, volunteering with the Trust is a great opportunity to get out, explore your outdoors and play a key part in caring for our countryside too."

Travel, accommodation and meals are all organised for volunteers signing up for these projects. For more information on becoming a conservation volunteer and the full programme, visit <a href="http://www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor/">http://www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor/</a>.

The Lothian Conservation Volunteers group is one of five working with the National Trust for Scotland, the charity that conserves and promotes Scotland's heritage. In 2016, these volunteers carried out more than 10,000 hours conservation work.

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## **Editor's Notes:**

IMAGES: Conservation volunteers at work - https://www.flickr.com/gp/133918740@N04/930g06

The National Trust for Scotland is one of Scotland's leading conservation charities, which relies on the financial support of its members and donors to fund its important work of caring for the natural and cultural heritage of Scotland for everyone to enjoy.

You can join the National Trust for Scotland for as little as  $\mathcal{L}7$  per month for a family. To become a member, visit http://www.nts.org.uk/Join/Benefits/.

You can make a difference and help protect everything in our care. Donate online at https://www.nts.org.uk/Donations/









