



22 September 2023

## **NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND THANKS NORTH EAST VOLUNTEER FOR 50 YEARS**

A dedicated volunteer who has been involved in supporting the conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland for 50 years was recognised today at its Annual General Meeting in Aberdeen.

Joyce Mackie from Ellon has been involved with the charity which cares for some of Aberdeenshire's most impressive gardens, castles, historic houses and countryside, in many different guises throughout the past five decades. Amongst Joyce's roles were serving on the Council, acting as a Vice President, and undertaking the role of cruise leader. Nowadays Joyce is a life member of our charity, donor, volunteer, and Honorary President of the North East Aberdeenshire Members' Centre.

Presenting Joyce with a special long-service at the event today, Deputy Chair of the National Trust for Scotland David Mitchell said:

"We want to celebrate Joyce's quite staggering 50 years with the Trust and is very appropriate that we are today hosting our Annual General Meeting in the north-east, an area home to Joyce and a region which has benefited enormously from her unwavering support. Our charity is immensely grateful to Joyce, and indeed all of our thousands of volunteers, who help us to bring the nature, beauty and heritage of Aberdeenshire, and all of Scotland, to everyone."

Joyce said: "I cannot think of another organisation in Scotland, or indeed the world, to be involved in than the National Trust for Scotland."

Joyce paid tribute to the charity's volunteers, staff and supporters, saying they are 'like a family'.

The National Trust for Scotland's Annual General Meeting took place today at P&J Live, Aberdeen. The hybrid event was attended by around 100 people at the venue and the same online. Attendees voted to re-elect broadcaster Jackie Bird as the Trust's President for another year, and voted on three new Trustee appointments.

The event concluded with a live recording of the charity's popular podcast series, Love Scotland, which was hosted by Jackie Bird and featured author Alistair Moffat and musician Iona Fyfe.

**ENDS**

## Notes to Editors:

IMAGES: Jackie Bird and Joyce Mackie

- <https://www.flickr.com/gp/133918740@N04/19LMx6tScL>

### **About the National Trust for Scotland**

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

Scotland's largest membership organisation, the National Trust for Scotland relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk).

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.