

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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Inspiring nature at Hill of Tarvit

New for the 2017 visitor season (which starts on 1 April) the National Trust for Scotland's Hill of Tarvit will be running a series of nature-themed events.

These walks, talks and family activities will aim to inspire the local community to come back to explore the grounds of Hill of Tarvit over and over again.

Led by expert rangers from the National Trust for Scotland, the charity that conserves and promotes Scotland's heritage, the new family activities will include Nature Nipper sessions inspiring under 5s and their parents to explore the great outdoors and Wild Thursday afternoons, running throughout the summer holidays, which will teach children skills such as den building, bird spotting and fire lighting.

There will also be a range of walks and talks for adults including bat walks, a wildflower meadow walk and a fungi wander.

Lothian and Fife Ranger, Stuart Whittaker, said: "Hill of Tarvit is a wonderful site for the local community to use and explore. The site boasts an abundance of local wildlife including, greater spotted woodpeckers, various species of bats that can be seen at dusk, jays and the amazing small but agile red squirrels which have been seen around the mansion on the woodland trail. We are very excited at the prospect of exploring this site with a diverse range of local audiences."

Stuart has worked as a ranger for the National Trust for Scotland for 5 years based in the Lothians but is delighted to be working at the Trust's properties in Fife this year.

Hill of Tarvit mansion, tearoom & shop will be open to the public from 1 Apr Thu-Mon, 11.00- 16.30. Grounds are open to the public all year.

Hill of Tarvit is one of Scotland's finest Edwardian mansion houses, cared for by the National Trust for Scotland since 1949. With a splendid collection of

furniture, Chinese porcelain and superb paintings by Sir Henry Raeburn, the mansion is a wonderful example of Edwardian stately living.

There's plenty to do, from a game of croquet on the garden lawn to admiring collections and antiques, or strolling through the sunken rose garden. Kingarrock Hickory Golf Course nearby is an original 9-hole club course, now completely restored, giving a rare chance to tee-off in twenties style. See www.kingarrock.com for more information.

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National Trust for Scotland Press Office. Contact Sarah Cuthbert-Kerr on 0131 458 0272/ 07713 786277.

Editor's Notes:

Images: L - R Colin MacLean (Volunteer Ranger Assistant) and Stuart Whittaker (Lothian and Fife Ranger) and at Hill of Tarvit.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/133918740@N04/shares/91g23M>

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