



# Galloway Members' Group

supporting the National Trust for Scotland



## What We Do

The aim of the Galloway Members' Group is to raise funds for the National Trust for Scotland and to promote social activities among members. We are a thriving, friendly group and welcome new members. For only £5 a year per member you will gain access to our Programme of local events - fascinating talks and organized outings, plus a Newsletter twice yearly. Members pay £3 per talk, and visitors may also attend talks at a cost of £5. Often the members gain privileged access to places not normally open to the public, or have the benefit of a specially tailored guided tour.

In May and June 2018 we enjoyed two outdoor events, namely: a Bluebell Walk at Carstramon Wood (see photo below), Gatehouse of Fleet, followed by Afternoon Tea at Rusco Tower, Gatehouse; and an Orchid Walk and Lunch at Kirkland Farm, Colvend. In April 2018 (see photo below) we held a most successful Gardeners' Question Time evening event at Threave where over 80 participants had drinks and canapes and challenged the four expert panelists with their questions. Then on a perfect summer's evening in July sixty one be-tartaned guests enjoyed a marvellous Galloway Fling at Anwoth House.

There are five Talks per year held over the Winter months from October to March, all of which are held at 2.00pm on Monday afternoons at Threave. They begin on Monday 15 October 2018 (see Programme below). Every year there are two social gatherings, one in Winter and the other in Summer, and are usually hosted in a member's house. Our 2018 Winter Gathering will be held on 12 December at Airds House, Parton, Castle Douglas, DG7 2NF, where there will be wine, substantial canapes, raffle, and carols. (Please note this is a bookable event). During Spring and Summer there will be 3 away outings to Gardens and also a Quiz Night.

*Joining us is a great way to meet like-minded people and make new friends, while contributing to a very worthwhile cause. For a membership pack, contact Gwen Shaw, Secretary at [gwendoline.shaw@gmail.com](mailto:gwendoline.shaw@gmail.com).*



## Talks Schedule 2018 -19

*All talks (and AGM) take place at Threave Garden & Estate, Castle Douglas at 2pm*

**Monday 15 October 2018. Presentation by Warren and Esther Tacke on 'Four Years Cycling around the World'.** We will hear how their bike trips became increasingly ambitious over the years. Starting at first on questionable mountain bikes until they acquired their first custom touring bikes to cycle across France. These joined an expanding stable of bicycles as they started to race Audax endurance events. Then they decided to go for a four-year journey around the world, in the end travelling 32,500 miles trip through a total of 39 countries, including USA, New Zealand, China and Turkey. Being unable to settle on their return they decided to move to Dumfries and Galloway.

**Monday 12 November 2018. 'Between the Tides'. Jim Logan BSc, CBIOL, FRES,** will take you on a journey through what Jim sees as he surveys the marine environment. Over a career which began when he studied marine biology, going on to work for the Overseas Development Administration on a tropical disease called Schistosomiasis which took him for two years to Swaziland. Transferred to the unit investigating the control of termites as pests of crops, this involved many short visits to Sudan, Zimbabwe, Malawi and India. When retiring to Gatehouse of Fleet his interest in marine life was rekindled walking along the nearby beaches. He now surveys the marine life for the environmental recordscentre in Dumfries and the shells for the Conchological Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

**Monday 14 January 2019. 'The Trees of Kirkcudbright's Soaperie Gardens', Christopher Ingram BSc.** In this illustrated talk Christopher will aim to fascinate us with the many and varied trees in Soaperie Gardens, just by the Parish Church, Kirkcudbright. He took his BSc (Forestry) in Aberdeen 1969 and then travelled to Zambia, working in timber research. Returning to Scotland with his wife Jean he took up a post from 1973 until 1980 with Tilhill Forestry Scotland. From 2002 to July 2004 he became Arboricultural Manager at PBA Consulting in Liss, Hampshire. Completing his career as Arboricultural Consultant for Quaife Woodlands in Kent until 2013 and retiring to Kirkcudbright to live.

**Monday 11 February 2019. John Brough Scott MBE will talk on 'Churchill at the Gallop'.** Brough is a British horse racing journalist, radio and television presenter, and former jockey. He is the grandson and biographer of the noted Great War soldier "Galloper Jack" Seely. His riding career saw him ride over 100 winners including The Imperial Cup and The Mandarin Handicap Chase. He joined ITV in 1971, and was regularly seen and heard on *the ITV Seven* and later Channel 4 Racing for thirty years. He also briefly presented football coverage for Channel 5. He was racing correspondent for The Sunday Times (where he succeeded Roger Mortimer) and wrote for the Racing Post (which he co-founded with Sheikh Mohammed), The Independent on Sunday, and The Sunday Telegraph.

**Monday 11 March 2019. The Annual General Meeting;** followed by a talk **by James Hutchinson of NTS Threave on 'The Ospreys of Threave'.** James has worked for the National Trust Scotland for four years; has been a Ranger at Threave Garden and Estate for three years, and is now Visitor Services Supervisor for Natural Heritage. Having graduated from university he became a Secondary Science and Chemistry teacher and worked in a number of green energy and community projects. The talk will feature a short film produced by him and photographs taken by staff and volunteers.

### Contact Us

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