



GLASGOW NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November 2013

David Palmar
(Newsletter Editor)

Next Newsletter Deadline
10 January 2014

GNHS is a Registered Scottish
Charity Web-site:
www.gnhs.org.uk/

GNHS Indoor Meetings in Boyd Orr Building, unless noted

November

Tuesday 12th

6.30pm Tutorial: Observations on a colony of adders, slow-worms and common lizards on Loch Lomondside; Chris McInerny

7.30pm Lecture: The Scottish pine marten: using genetic techniques to study an elusive predator; Laura Kubasiewicz

December

Tuesday 10th

Zoology Museum, Graham Kerr Building: Christmas buffer dinner; see end of Newsletter for details and booking form.

LT 2, Graham Kerr Building: Lecture - An orchid gap year: a 19 year old's attempt to see every species of orchid in Britain and Ireland in one summer; Leif Bersweden

2014

January

Tuesday 7th

6.30pm Lecture: Blame it on geography: conserving Mexican otters using landscape genetics; Jimena Guerrero Flores

7.30pm Lecture: The march of the harlequin ladybird; Helen Roy

February

Tuesday 11th

7.15pm Photographic Night: members' slides or digital slide shows, plus photographic competition results

Thursday 27th

6.00pm Graham Kerr Building, Lecture Theatre 1. Glasgow University Expeditions Report Back. Jointly with GU Exploration Society (most expeditions are supported by the BLB Bequest)

GNHS/BRISC bursaries

Richard Weddle

As in previous years, GNHS and BRISC (Biological Recording in Scotland) are offering bursaries towards attending a training course in natural history field studies skills. The bursaries will be for £200 or 75% of the cost of the course, whichever is lower. This year there will be six bursaries available; the closing date for applications is 31 January 2014; for full details and an application form see www.gnhs.org.uk/bursaries.html

2014 Subscriptions

Richard Weddle

Subscriptions fall due on 1st January 2014 (except for those who have joined in the past few weeks). Unless our records show that you pay your subscription by Standing Order, a subscription renewal form is enclosed; email recipients will receive a separate reminder by email. We would be grateful if you could pay your subscription as soon as possible, to save us having to send further reminders. Remember that if you pay by the end of January you may deduct £1.

Tree Lovers' Society Meeting

Members are invited to a meeting jointly hosted by the Glasgow Tree Lovers' Society and the Friends of Glasgow Botanic Gardens on Thursday, 21st November at 7.30pm in the Bower (Botany) Building University Avenue. The title is "The Glasgow Garden Festival Re-visited, 25 Years On" and the presentation will be made by Walter Gilmour, Stephen Docherty and Angus Mackay, members of GTLS who were involved in the planning and management of the Garden Festival in 1988.

Sedges and Rush ID at FSC Kindrogan

Laura Cunningham

I currently work as Project Officer at Cathkin Marsh Wildlife Reserve, a wetland site in South Lanarkshire owned by Scottish Wildlife Trust and was grateful to receive a grant from GNHS/BRISC to attend a sedge and rush ID course.

On the first day at Kindrogan Field Studies Centre our group headed to a site near Schiehallion influenced by an old lime kiln. Species growing along the track were those typical of base enrichment areas and included *Carex flacca* (glaucous sedge) and *Carex pulicaris* (flea sedge). Over the road towards Loch Kinordachy we found three species of rush, *Juncus effusus* (soft rush), *Juncus conglomeratus* (compact rush) and *J. acutiflorus* (sharp flowered rush).



Juncus acutiflorus or sharp flowered rush

Our tutor Fred Rumsey demonstrated a simple method of quickly differentiating between soft rush and compact rush, by twirling the stem between the fingers – the stem of *J. effusus* being very smooth and that of *J. conglomeratus* being ridged (and also a paler green to the very bright stem of soft rush).

Other species encountered included *Carex nigra* (common sedge) the commonest species of the cyperaceae family found in the UK, *Carex hostiana* (tawny sedge) and *Carex echinata* (star sedge).

At the mire site we travelled to before lunch (Lochan Daimh) there was *Carex rostrata* (bottle sedge), deer grass and *Eriophorum latifolium*, which has yellow-green foliage and a brighter whiter head in a shorter, neater tuft with rough stalks (Fred tested

this with his tongue) compared to, *E. angustifolium*, which is more blue grey. Here we also saw good examples of hare's tail cottongrass (*E. vaginatum*) the foliage of which has a fine prickly tip.

Bottle sedge was the first species we came across that I was familiar with as it is abundant on Cathkin Marsh. This species, along with *Carex nigra* and *Carex aquatilis* are monitored at the reserve annually to assess the impact of the grazing project and to monitor changes in vegetation year on year. I also learned how to confidently identify *Juncus squarrosus* – which has a rolled stem (reminding me of celery), particularly near the base. This species is tough and unpalatable to grazers. At the third morning site we found hair sedge (delicate and dangly), yellow mountain saxifrage, *Juncus alpinoarticulatus* (round fruit, obtuse petals, reddish tinge) and Scottish asphodel.

In the afternoon we travelled to Rannoch moor to find the Rannoch rush (*Scheuchzeria palustris*) which is localised to this area and can be found in sphagnum rafts along with 3 more sedges – *Carex pauciflora*, *Carex limosa* and *Carex magellanica*.

Day 2 Glas Maol

We headed to Glas Maol to find upland rushes and sedges. We found *Juncus trifidus*, *Juncus castaneus*, *Juncus bulbosa* and *Juncus triglumis*. Sedge highlights of the day were *Carex rariflora* and *Carex atrata*.



Carex rariflora

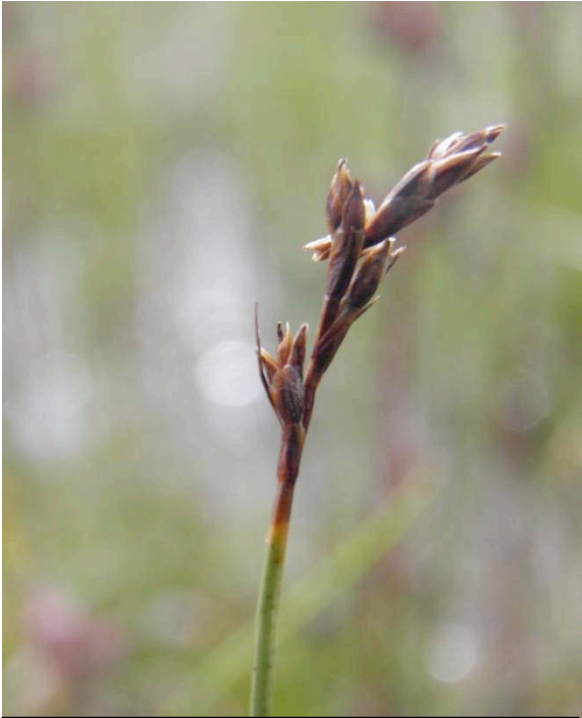
I also learned *Carex bigelowii* (stiff sedge), the dominant mountain upland sedge, has stomata on the underside of the leaves, to preserve water loss, whereas on *nigra* and *aquatilis* the stomata are on the upperside. Hybrids can form between these species which may have stomata on both the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves. *Carex atrata* (black sedge) was found after shuffling along a ledge and everyone was impressed by the

triangular stem, which one participant described as 'like a toblerone'. This species grows on calcareous cliff ledges and besides the triangular stem, a key character in identification is the male spike, which is not terminal as is typical of most sedges.

Day 3 lowland fens

In the morning we headed to a tall herb fen near Marlee Loch and investigated the differences between grazed and ungrazed areas. We found toad rush, *J. bufonius*, growing in the bare areas that had been poached by grazers. On the ungrazed area we found *J. acutiflorus* (sharp flowered rush) growing abundantly with bottle sedge, and in the wetter areas *Carex aquatilis* dominated. In a shaded corner of this site we discovered *Carex remota*, another commonly found sedge, with skullcap

growing amongst.



False sedge (not a carex!)

After lunch we headed to Glen Fender, near Blair Atholl, to a species rich mire to find uncommon deer sedge and false sedge. At this site we came across bur reed and the extremely rare brown bog rush - a quite unspectacular plant which looks very similar to deer sedge and could be easily overlooked. Close to the field centre we stopped on the way back to look at bladder sedge, a very sharp leaved sedge like a giant bottle sedge, and pale sedge, a top heavy sedge which tends to flop over.

By the end of the day we had seen 51 sedges and rushes during the course... (not including hybrids!)

Day 4 – Ben Lawers

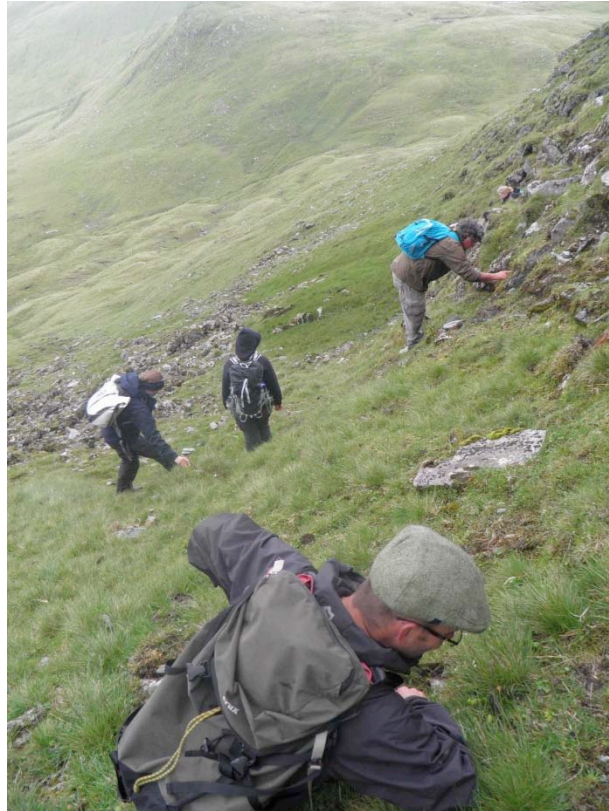
Another day on the hills and thanks to Fred's expertise we saw all three of the species that are found in mica schist mountains. *C. microglochin* was found just before lunch, a species which can be found in this single corrie in the whole of the UK and which resembles a much daintier version of the flea sedge.

C. saxatilis was found after climbing a particularly steep slope and after a worrying wee while we found the star of the show, *C. atrofusca*, a species found in less than ten Scottish sites and having a somewhat scorched appearance.

C. microglochin



Extreme
botany with
Fred Rumsey



Letter from the Goldenland 5 Golden Orioles and White Storks

Jim Dickson

Birds were my first natural history passion. That was in the late 1940's. All I had was Edmund Sander's *A Bird Book for the Pocket* and later James Fisher's two Pelican books on *Bird Recognition*. I still have them and they bear the marks of much use long ago. Some birds seemed almost mythical to me. I would never see them: Golden Orioles, Red-necked Phalaropes, Great Northern Divers and Hoopoes, for instance. Family holidays to Rothesay could never produce them; Oyster Catchers and Gannets were OK but not to be compared with these fabulous creatures.

I waited till 1969 to hear Great Northern Divers at the north end of the Mackenzie Delta in Arctic Canada, till 1973 to see Hoopoes on Majorca and till 1992 to see Red-necked Phalaropes doing their synchronised swimming reels at Yakutat, Alaska. Sitting in Jenny's garden in springtime this year I kept hearing short bird calls of only three or four notes but very melodic. What produced them? Sounding tropical, they took me back to Papua New Guinea in 1987 where there were lots of calls but you never saw the bird or which other creature was responsible. Thanks to a French natural history friend, I know the mysterious melodic call is that of Golden Orioles which seldom leave the treetops. At last all the mythical birds are real.

Listening to the Tweet of the Day at 05.55hrs on Radio Four a few months ago there was the lovely call of the Golden Oriole which we are assured is now established in East Anglia. Great! Hurry up to Milngavie, please, beautiful, tuneful little bird! No need to wait for any more global warming, just come and nest high in the tall poplars near my flat.

Other birds I can see or hear from Jenny's garden are Tree Sparrows (but not for a few years now), Black Redstarts, Hawfinches, Nuthatches, Black Kites, White Storks (there is a small colony at Villersexel, some 40 km southeast of Chemilly) and Nightingales but I must say the singing of the latter disappoints me. If you want to listen to a marvellous bird chorus go then to Helsinki in May or June and be stunned by the Thrush Nightingales, as I was in 1990. Now, oh boy, that really is worth hearing.



Autumn Ladies Tresses

On 29th August Jenny and I drove south for a holiday first in Bourbonnais and then in Limousin. We were not so far away from Chemilly at Freitigney and what was going on just close to the road in a stubble field? There were about fifty White Storks close to the ground beginning to circle in a thermal to gain height for their migration south to Africa. In these parts this is a rare enough event to have been reported in

L'Est Republicain, the local regional paper. As a wee boy how happy I would have been had I known that 65 years later I would see such a sight. We got to our B and B in Limousin called *Les Loriots* (the Orioles) and our host pointed out the tall poplars where the Orioles nest. More than that, there were lots of Autumn Ladies Tresses in the lawn, an orchid I had never seen. Sometimes these days, just sometimes, I don't want to stop the world and get off.

Be all that as it may, I still have not yet actually set eyes on a Golden Oriole.

Excursion Report

Borders Tweed Valley Weekend, 14–16th June 2013

Bob Gray

The Tweed valley is located on the east side of Scotland's watershed and the area we came particularly to see lies between Innerleithen in the west and Melrose in the east. The river's valley floor is a drumlin field and the relic of a palaeo-ice stream that flowed through the area during the last glaciation. The bedrock consists of Silurian slates and shales.

On Friday evening we visited the grounds of **Traquair House** close to where we were staying in Innerleithen. This house, claimed to be the oldest inhabited house in Scotland, is the home of Catherine Maxwell-Stuart, a descendant of the 5th Earl of Traquair who, by repute, following a visit by Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1744, vowed never to re-open the Bear Gates leading to the house until a Stuart king was crowned. The grounds originally consisted of woodlands that formed part of the Ettrick Forest.

Today most of the large trees consist of those planted in the 1870's. Most impressive of all, however, is a group of four yews (*Taxus baccata*) considered to be part of the old forest and some of the oldest yews in Scotland. They grow forming remarkably convoluted trunks and branches on the frequently flooding banks of the Quair Water. They are amongst the Forestry Commission Scotland's (FCS) 'Heritage Trees of Scotland'. Nearby we measured a massive, multi-stemmed Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*).

Our first destination on Saturday was **Fairnilee Estate** located south of Clovenfords on the north bank of the Tweed where we were met by the resident arborist, Paul Henry who explained that the owner, Stephen Deans, manages his woodlands with a policy of minimal intervention. This means that trees, which in more normally managed woods would be felled, are allowed to continue to grow. So the woodlands are remarkably rich in wildlife and most attractive to the natural historian. A most noteworthy feature of the trees growing alongside the access road was the fact they are festooned with Persian ivy (*Hedera colchica*). Near the entrance was a smaller leaved version. The house was built some 100 years ago by Robert Miller, a Selkirk mill owner who was also responsible for planting many of the exotic trees to be found within the policies.

The estate possesses a remarkable mix of native and introduced, ancient and veteran specimens. Our guide introduced us to a few of these. A dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) and coastal redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) were seen at the eastern entrance to the garden. A field near the farm contained an ancient, hollow ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) with a trunk cavity through which a newborn child of our guide had been ritually passed. A young hiba (*Thujaopsis dolabrata*) was passed as we made our way to another hollowed and decayed ash into which no fewer than eleven people had squeezed. Near here was a veteran tree, the Fairnilee sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), which at 6.3 m girth is the largest tree to be found on the estate and is reckoned to be about 300 years old. It is surrounded by other trees. We passed a wild service tree (*Sorbus torminalis*) and a Japanese umbrella pine (*Sciadopytis verticillata*) on our way towards viewing one of the largest Sitka spruce trees (*Picea sitchensis*) in the country. It is heavily buttressed and at just under 6 m breast height girth it seems to be surpassed in the south of Scotland only by the Monteviot Sitka near Jedburgh.

Amongst other trees seen on the recce but missed during this visit were two trees putatively identified as cork firs (*Abies lasiocarpa* var. *arizonica*), each with a narrow, dense spire. Finally, this being the 5th Centenary of the Battle of Flodden, it was appropriate to note that there lived in the 18th Century in what is now a ruined mansion the beautiful Alison Rutherford who wrote a famous version of "The Flowers of the Forest".

Glenkinnon Burn Biodiversity Trail was our next destination where we were met by Sarah Eno, recently retired from the Borders Forest Trust which developed the trail in collaboration with FCS and local interest groups. Firstly Sitka spruce was felled and then volunteers planted native trees (protected by tubes) followed by ongoing conifer removal, birch thinning and the installation of paths and bridges.

The far northwest side of the gorge, part of the policies of the original estate, consists of oak, ash and hazel woodland and is an SSSI rich in bryophytes and

lichens, “the finest site for woodland lichens in the Borders” (Coppins, 2004). The management recommendation for the community woodland to the southeast of the gorge is to establish native woodland similar to that of the SSSI with a rich species diversity. Since 2006 when the trail was established much natural regeneration has occurred, mainly birch and willow with much oak (the acorns spread by local jays), some holly and rowan and in places ash and hazel.

The ground flora lower down the burn side is noticeably richer than that on the upper slopes where the underlying Silurian rocks have produced a nutrient poor soil. Unfortunately we did not encounter tree lungwort lichen (*Lobaria pulmonaria*), here an indicator of ash/elm woodland and which is reported to be present.

Having climbed to the higher reaches of the trail we returned to the wood entrance at the Yair campsite car park beside which grows the Glenkinnon oak. This veteran tree is one of 22 Borders Heritage Tree locations. In 1990 its girth was measured as 600 cm. We measured it to be 667 cm, an increase of 67 cm (27”). So it appears to growing still at just over 1” per year. It grows on a steep bank and its widely spread branches suggest growth in open ground through much of its life. Its girth suggests an age of about 250 years but it is widely believed to be over 300 years. Our thanks go to Anne Craigen and Roland Stiven of BFT and David Long of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh who made available much information about this site.

En route to our next rendezvous we travelled along the B road that follows the south bank of the River Tweed and lies between the **Elibank and Traquair Forest** and the river. (We passed Ashiestiel where Sir Walter Scott lived as Abbotsford was being built. It was on the river bank here that he composed “The Lay of the Last Minstrel” and “Marmion”.) Much natural regeneration of trees was in evidence at the roadside and so we paused to examine this abundance. Apart from Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) all the conifer regeneration consisted of introduced species: Sitka and Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), European (*Larix decidua*) and Japanese larch (*L. kaempferi*), Lawson's cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) and Douglas fir, the parents growing locally and demonstrating how well adapted are all these species to the local environment.

At **Glentress Forest** we were met at the Buzzard's Nest car park by forest officer Chris Tracey who took us along a route that led close to one of the higher points in the forest at 369 m. The main reason for visiting Glentress was to observe progress in the conversion of even-aged plantations with a clear felling regime into an uneven aged, irregular forest with a group selection system. This trial area was established in 1952 by the Forestry Commission under the auspices of Prof. M.L. Anderson of Edinburgh University who had been impressed by the continuous ground cover forestry practised in areas of continental Europe, particularly in mountainous areas, where erosion is an ongoing problem. The area is sometimes referred to as the “Anderson Plots”. 60 years was the original timescale chosen to achieve the objective, felling at one time small groups that were just big enough to allow in enough light for natural regeneration. Originally the species used were those occurring in Europe, viz. Norway spruce, European silver fir (*Abies alba*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) but the latter two were found to be browsed by deer so that they were supplemented with Sitka spruce and Douglas fir. Some of the

original beeches are still no more than 1 m tall. Continuous cover forestry has arguably come into its own in the 21st Century.

Chris Tracey took the opportunity to explain to us how the FCS management structure is currently organised so that, within a Forest District such as Dumfries and the Borders, different officers take charge of various management aspects such as planting, forest design, timber marketing and public access and recreation over the whole of each district (no longer a forester in charge of each forest). She also skilfully shepherded us safely over one of the many cycle routes used by high speed mountain bikers.

We are most grateful to John Blyth (ex Edinburgh University) and Hamish Mackintosh (Forest Research, Roslin, winner of the Scottish Forestry Trust Award for 2012 for his work on continuous cover forestry) for both their encouragement and information provided.

Sunday morning found us meeting at **Abbotsford House** with Ian Laidlaw, operations officer for FCS Borders and the newly appointed manager for the estate. The centenary of Sir Walter Scott's death, 1932, was, perhaps surprisingly, the inspiration for the setting up of the Glasgow Tree Lovers' Society by a group of enthusiasts the following year. The house, famously built by Scott, and gardens have recently been totally restored by a charitable trust.

What is less well known about this prodigious novelist and poet is that he was an accomplished forester. His practical interest in silviculture is shown in his *Sylva Abbotsfordiensis* written when woodland covered some 4% only of Scotland compared with 18% today and before the great introductions by the 19th Century plant hunters. It records his woodland management from 1812 -1825. Our party visited that part of the policies called the "lower thicket"... "In 1813-14 both firs (i.e. Scots pine) and hard wood were pruned and the beneficial effect upon the oaks in particular has been most apparent as from low bushes they suddenly shot up into thriving young trees." He refers often to larches (i.e. European larch).

This north-facing slope, to the west of the house, consists of a brown earth type of soil, more nutrient rich with flushing on the lower slopes. These soils sit above the Tweed Valley, wide at this point and forming a flood plain where Scott established some parkland trees.

Maps from both before and after Scott's time show the considerable positive effects of Scott's forestry. He prescribed oak and European larch mainly, Scots pine for exposed sites and alder, willow, poplar and "spruce fir" (Norway spruce) for wet areas. He also recommends silver fir. Closer to the house is a stand of yew, difficult to age, that may represent original Scott plantings (Badenoch). Otherwise it is considered few trees remain of his plantings between 1814 and 1830. More introduced species of trees and shrubs such as western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), Lawson's cypress, noble fir (*Abies procera*), grand fir (*A. grandis*), Sitka spruce, azalea, rhododendron and snowberry (*Symphoricarpos alba*) are found towards the east end of the area we looked at. Their availability post-dates Scott.

Farther west, away from the house, the woods grade into earlier species. The chief mature trees consist of beech, oak and Scots pine although the site is probably too fertile for good quality Scots pine. Much natural regeneration is visible of beech, sycamore, ash and silver birch. Fewer Scots pine and oak seedlings are seen. The one species we were able to add to the 2012 survey list was Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*). Amongst many flowering plants are those associated with well-established woodland such as sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*) and abundant dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*). Viewed with interest were bird's nest orchid (*Neottia nidus-avis*) and lesser wintergreen (*Pyrola minor*). Both of these natives were growing on mainly beech leaf mould.

Before leaving Abbotsford we visited the newly refurbished walled garden with its remarkable sculptures and were reminded of Scott's lines from "The Heart of Midlothian": "Jock, when ye hae naething else to do, ye may be ay sticking in a tree; it will be growing, Jock, when ye're sleeping." (motto of the Royal Scottish Forestry Society - RSFS) Thanks are owed to Ian Laidlaw for making available much of the historical data relating to Abbotsford and acknowledgements to James Ogilvie, social and planning officer FCS, for his insightful analysis of Scott's forestry and to Chris Badenoch of RSFS for producing plant lists of the policies.

Kailzie Gardens, 230 m (700') a.s.l. on the south bank of the Tweed, near Peebles, was our final destination. Some of our Society members may be familiar with a portrait by Raeburn that hangs in the Kelvingrove Art Gallery of John Campbell, an ancestor of the present owner, Angela Lady Buchan-Hepburn. She constructed the walled garden and has been responsible since 1962 for much of the planting. Our party walked firstly to the site of the old house demolished in 1962 from where a fine view is to be had towards the north and east over the Tweed to the Leithen Hills. The northeasterly aspect of the grounds means that frosts can be a problem and so only the hardiest plants survive here. This northern part of the garden is dominated by a giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) and many Himalayan birches have been planted here.

In the northeast corner of the grounds stands the magnificent Kailzie larch planted in 1725 and one of the finest specimens in Scotland. A few European larches were introduced by Sir James Naesmyth of Posso and Dawyck, a renowned tree collector, described by an estate visitor in 1890 as having had "trees on the brain" and as the person responsible for planting the tree in question many years before. This European larch is even bigger in girth than the Dawyck larch, also introduced by Sir James, and viewed by the Society in 2002.

We meandered clockwise through the woods rich in rhododendrons, azaleas, snowy mespilus (*Amelanchier* sp.) and occasional, labelled pink flowered winter cherry (*Prunus x subhirtella* 'Autumnalis Rosea'). Beside an arched bridge grew a fine pair of Katsura trees (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*) whilst alongside the burn were many red-barked dogwood (*Cornus alba*), as well as Astilbes, *Gunnera manicata* and yellow skunk cabbage (*Lysochiton americanus*).

Near the entrance to the walled garden (1811, 18' high wall) grows a spectacular layered yew with, close to it, an intriguing circle of holly trunks that gave the impression of having been one tree in the past. A fine giant sequoia grows here. The island beds contain many hardy shrubs such as stag's-horn sumach (*Rhus*

typhina), smoke-bush (*Cotinus coggygria*), Viburnums, Spiraeas and beauty bush (*Kolkwitzia amabilis*). Roses of many species occupy the rose beds and climbers adorn the walls. The greenhouse contains many fine conservatory plants. Fortunately for us the laburnum walk was in full bloom.

The tranquility of these diverse gardens marked the end of a most varied weekend, steeped in the history of the Borders.

Time and distance prevented us from visiting the pair of **Posso sycamores** included in Scotland's Heritage Trees and one of which is the largest girthed recorded sycamore in Britain. They are located just west of Posso farmhouse some 8 km up the glen that carries the Manor Water southwest of Peebles. Their presence was confirmed during the recce for this weekend!

GNHS Christmas Social, Tuesday 10th December 2013

Janet Palmar

This year Council has again decided to hold the Christmas Social in the Museum in the Graham Kerr Building, with the talk in lecture theatre 2.

Following its success last year, we are again trying a "bring a dish" formula. Everyone brings enough savoury or sweet food for at least two servings (for example, couples can bring four servings of one dish.) The food is laid out, and everyone can have a taste of any dishes they choose.

No good at cooking, or run out of time with all the arrangements for Christmas? – no problem, just buy cakes or cold meat!

As the kitchen facilities are limited, it would be best to choose dishes which can be served cold. Although there will be no charge for the evening, it is essential to let me know if you intend to come, so that we can set out the right number of tables and chairs. It would also be most helpful if you can let me know what type of dish you intend to bring, e.g. savoury, salad or sweet.

Please **either** email me jpalmar2005@yahoo.co.uk **or** fill in the form overleaf and return it to me at the November 12th meeting, or post to me at 15 Endfield Ave, Glasgow G12 0JX.

General Correspondence to the General Secretary: Mary Child

Please remember to look at the GNHS website www.gnhs.org.uk for details of society activities, including any changes to meetings or excursions.

The top of this page is intentionally blank, so that you can cut out the form below, and still keep the information about the Christmas social on page 11.

GNHS Christmas Dinner – 7.00 for 7.30pm, Tue 10th Dec 2013
Bookable *as soon as possible please* by sending the form below to Janet Palmar.

Name(s) (please print)

.....

Address.....

.....

Phone no.....

I/we intend to bring (describe type of food - savoury, salad or sweet)

.....forpeople

GNHS welcomes contributions to the Newsletter from members, without which the Newsletter would be a poor production! It would be of enormous help in getting the Newsletter out in time if you could please send them either as plain text or in a Word file as Verdana 12 points, which saves them being reformatted by the Editor. Scientific names should be italicised if you have time.

Please send photos separately from the text as jpg files, and indicate where you would like them inserted into the text. The more photos, the better the Newsletter!

Thank you

David Palmar, Newsletter Editor