

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE FESTIVAL

## Working with Nature on a Highland Estate

Saturday 14 May, 10am – 12 noon  
A morning walk on Wildlife Estates Scotland accredited Glenmuick Estate to look at the management of different habitats.

Location: Ballater  
[Booking essential](#) (20 spaces)  
Contact: [www.cairngorms.co.uk](http://www.cairngorms.co.uk)

## Sunrise from the Summit!

Saturday 14 May, 2am – 8am  
Celebrate the start of the Cairngorms Nature Festival! A night time ascent to witness the sunrise from the summit of Lochnagar. A very good level of fitness is required. We will spend some time at the top so warm spare clothes, warm drink and snacks recommended. Walk is weather dependent.  
Location: Crathie Tourist Information Centre  
Booking essential  
Requirements: A very good level of fitness. Very warm clothing required for the stop on the summit. Head torch. Food and warm drinks required.  
Contact: 01339 755 059

## Red Deer Ramble

Saturday 14 May, 8:30am – 10am  
Accompany a ranger to discover the intriguing lifestyle and learn about the management of the majestic red deer of Glen Muick. This is also a great time of day to observe other wildlife in Glen Muick.  
Location: Spittal of Glen Muick  
Booking essential (20 spaces)  
Requirements: sturdy footwear  
Contact: [glyn.jones@balmoralcastle.com](mailto:glyn.jones@balmoralcastle.com)  
or 01339 755 059

# Upper Deeside Events – 'wildland & wilderness'



## Marvellous Moths

Saturday 14 May, 10am – 12 noon  
Discover the amazing diversity of moths and their roles in nature. We will unveil last night's live moth trap catch to see some spring-flying species found locally. Find out how to attract moths and other pollinators in your garden too.  
Location: Burn O'Vat  
Booking essential (25 spaces)  
Requirements: U-16's must be accompanied  
Contact: [marr.ranger@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:marr.ranger@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
or 07787 583976

## Mar Lodge Open Day

Saturday 14 May, 10am – 4pm  
Come and see the inside of Mar Lodge and the famous Stag Ballroom. Children's activities and the chance to learn more about how an estate such as Mar Lodge is managed.  
Location: Mar Lodge  
Contact: [marlodgeestate@nts.org.uk](mailto:marlodgeestate@nts.org.uk) or 01339 720 163  
£3 entry to Mar Lodge, NTS/NT members and U-16 free

## Recording Local Wildlife

Saturday 14 May, 11am – 1pm  
Go on a wildlife walk in and around Ballater with Glenn Roberts of the North East Scotland Biological Recording Centre and learn how to record the wildlife that you see and how to submit any sightings to NESBREc. Suitable for all ages and levels of experience – children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Location: The Hut on the Green, Ballater  
Booking essential (16 spaces)  
Requirements: Sturdy outdoor walking shoes and waterproofs  
Contact: [Glenn.roberts@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Glenn.roberts@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

## Nature Treasure Hunt

Saturday 14 May, 12:30 – 3pm (drop in anytime)  
Pop into the visitor centre to pick up an answer sheet then enjoy a springtime walk around the Burn o'Vat..... And, if you solve all the clues, you could win a prize.  
Location: Burn O'Vat Visitor Centre  
Contact: SNH 013398 81667 or [NNR@SNH.gov.uk](mailto:NNR@SNH.gov.uk)

## An Evening with Nick Baker

Saturday 14 May, 6pm – approx. 8:30pm  
Come and join TV's Nick Baker to hear about his life, experiences and passion. He will talk about his amazing life as a wildlife presenter and his passion for nature. Try some of Scotland's Natural Larder food tasting - discover the richness and flavours of our nature through the seasons.  
Location: Victory Hall Aboyne  
[Booking essential](#)  
Contact: [www.cairngorms.co.uk](http://www.cairngorms.co.uk)

## Winged & Watery Wonders

Saturday 14 May, 2pm – 4pm  
Encounter forest minibeasts on a short walk (up to 1.25 miles) and go pond dipping to find what lurks in the lochan! Weather-permitting, we may see the beautiful Pearl-bordered Fritillary butterfly, a speciality of the Cairngorms.  
Location: Cambus O'May Forest  
Booking essential (25 spaces)  
Requirements: U-16 must be accompanied. Bring outdoor clothing suited to weather, stout footwear and binoculars if you have them  
Contact: [morayaberdeenshire@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:morayaberdeenshire@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
or 0300 067 6200



# CAIRNGORMS NATURE FESTIVAL

## Shoot the Wild

Sunday 15 May, 10am – 4pm

A fun event for all. We will learn how to take pictures of nature, and have an 'exhibition' of our results.

Location: Glen Tanar Estate

[Booking essential \(20 spaces\)](#)

Requirements: camera and connector to connect to computer. Something to eat and drink

Contact: [ranger@glentantar.co.uk](mailto:ranger@glentantar.co.uk) or 013398 86072

## Row, Row, Row your Boat!

Sunday 15 May, 10:30am – 12noon & 1:30pm – 3pm

Come for a splashy adventure with Mandy Tulloch of Mud Pies. Collect some natural treasures from around the wonderful Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve and use them to make a little raft. We will then head over to the bridge on the burn and make our boats. Will yours float merrily down the stream?!

We will also visit the fabulous Vat itself so please bring waterproofs and/or a change of clothes.

Suitable for ages 8 years and over.

Location: Muir of Dinnet NNR

[Booking essential](#) (20 spaces per session)

Contact: [info@mudpieadventures.co.uk](mailto:info@mudpieadventures.co.uk)

or 07929 465 680

## A Question of Balance

Saturday 14 May, 10am – 12 noon

A look at wildlife & land management in the Cairngorm uplands. An afternoon's land rover tour & walk on award-winning Allargue Estate offers the perfect opportunity to see at first-hand how the work of a modern, conservation-minded estate can benefit a number of species including black grouse, lapwing and curlew. A snack lunch will be available at the end of the morning tour.

Location: Allargue Estate, Cockbridge, Strathdon

[Booking essential](#) (12 spaces)

Contact: [www.cairngorms.co.uk](http://www.cairngorms.co.uk)



# Upper Deeside Events – 'wildland & wilderness'



## Nick at Muick

Sunday 15 May, Time TBC

Join us on the nature bus from Ballater to Loch Muick for a fun afternoon with a range of activities with TV's Nicky Blake and the Ballinacraig Rangers

Location: Meet in Ballater for bus

Booking essential

Contact: [www.cairngorms.co.uk](http://www.cairngorms.co.uk)

## The Mountains and the People

Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 May, 10am – 3pm

Support the Braemar Community to repair our fragile landscapes in an active day of practical path maintenance. Work with skilled upland path craftsmen to tackle the damage caused by wear and weather.

Location: Braemar Booking essential

Contact: [contact@themountainsandthepeople.org.uk](mailto:contact@themountainsandthepeople.org.uk)

## Foraging in Scotland's Natural Larder

Saturday 14 May, 12 noon – 5pm

Foraging walks – learn about foraging with one of Scotland's top foragers: Paul Williams of Galloway Wild Foods.

Location: The Hut on the Green, Ballater

Booking essential Contact: 01479 810477

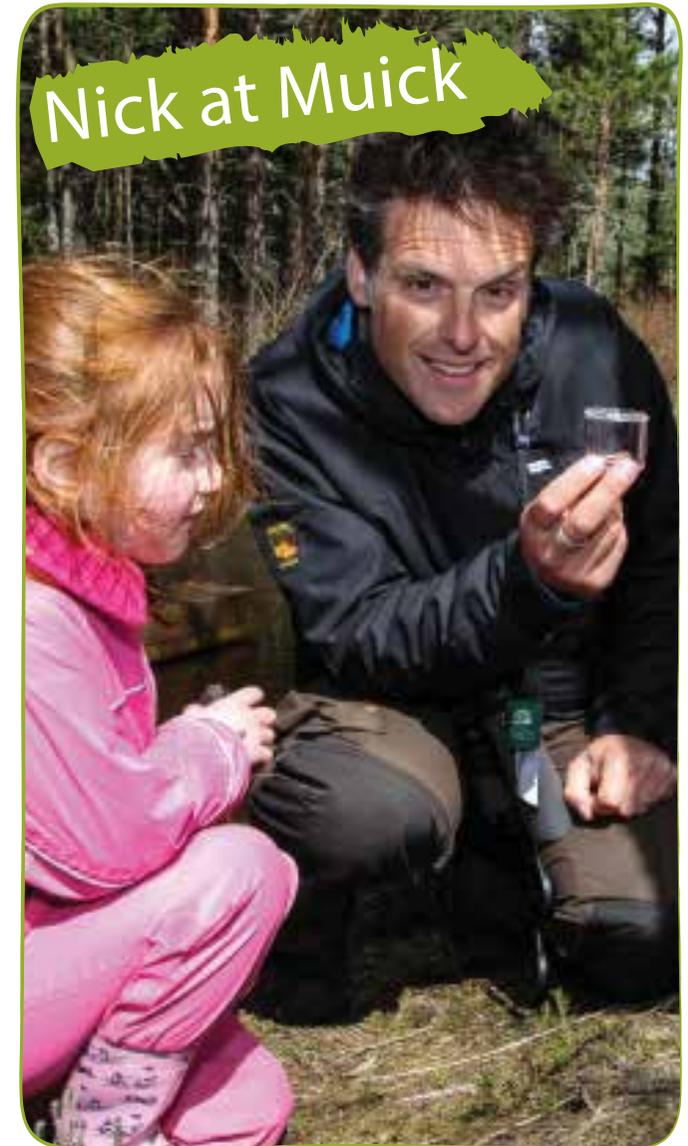
## Spot the Ducks

Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 May, All day

Can you find all the ducks that are hidden throughout Ballater. The ducks are preparing for their Big River Race on Sunday 22 May on the Dee at Ballater Bridge. There will be prizes for all entries.

Location: Ballater

Contact: Visitor Information Centre for entry forms



## Park Wide Activities



The great big Photo-Post challenge – a treasure hunt with a difference!

Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 May

Take a photo at each Photo Post during the Festival – there are 13 throughout the Park. We challenge you to get to every one and be the photo-post hotshot!



get involved   
Help us record our changing landscapes

Tomintoul

Aviemore

Ballater

Blair Atholl

For maps, instructions and uploading your pictures go to: [cairngorms.co.uk/photo-posts/](http://cairngorms.co.uk/photo-posts/)  
GOOD LUCK!

Each post is letter coded.  
Can you spot the message?

## Festival Photographic competition



Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 May

Share your Cairngorms Nature Festival photos with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram #CNF16

  
“The Cairngorms is the place to be if you love your wildlife...it's got everything...so if you've never been, come and have a look for yourself!”

Nick Baker  
Naturalist & television presenter



For further information about the Cairngorms Nature Festival call: 01479 873535

#CNF16