



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

WATSON RAPTOR SCIENCE PRIZE LECTURES

Saturday 22 September 2012, St. John's Town of Dalry

THE PLIGHT OF THE HEN HARRIER

2012 marks the 35th anniversary of the publication of Donald Watson's classic book *The Hen Harrier*. Sadly, this is now one of our most threatened birds - it has virtually ceased nesting in England, and is scarce in southern Scotland. We are holding an event to mark the importance of this bird, and to hear about some of the new and exciting research being carried out. The work on Orkney's hen harriers has been specially commended by the Watson Raptor Science Prize Panel.

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| 13.00 - 14.00 | Lunches available at Lochinvar Hotel or Clachan Inn |
| 14.00 | A history of hen harriers in the south of Scotland
Chris Rollie, RSPB |
| 14.20 | Hen harriers in Orkney: a success story - Eric Meek, RSPB |
| 15.00 | Hen harriers and grouse on Langholm moor: managing a special challenge - Aly McCluskie, Langholm Moor Demonstration Project |
| 15.30 | Tea/coffee |
| 16.00 | Hen harriers in Scotland today: what does the future hold?: Brian Etheridge, Scottish Raptor Monitoring Scheme |
| 16.30 | Discussion |

Chris Rollie is RSPB Area Manager for Dumfries and Galloway and has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the birds and naturalists of the area; **Eric Meek** has lived and worked in Orkney for more than 30 years and is the widely recognised expert on Orkney's birds; **Aly McCluskie** is one of our most active raptor researchers with a special flair for communicating his work; and **Brian Etheridge** is the Scottish Raptor Monitoring Scheme Officer with vast hands-on research experience of raptors, notably red kites, honey buzzards, sparrow hawks and hen harriers.

