

## Dams to Darnley Country Park events calendar 2016

East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City councils are working together to create Dams to Darnley Country Park. The country park sits in the greenspace separating Barrhead, Darnley and Newton Mearns.

Throughout the year the countryside rangers will be leading a series of activities and guided walks within the country park.

All events in this calendar are free but most require booking. We look forward to meeting you and hope you take the opportunity to sample what's on offer.

For more information or to book your place please contact the countryside ranger service.

Please note we take photographs at all our events and they may be used in future leaflets and publicity. If you have any objections please tell one of the countryside rangers before the start of the event.

**Look out for next year's events calendar in January 2017.**

## Join our mailing list

To receive all the latest news and a copy of 'Wagtail', the country park's quarterly newsletter and events calendar, simply pass your contact details to the countryside rangers.



**Dams to Darnley Country Park East  
Renfrewshire Council  
Environment Department  
Thornliebank Depot  
190 Carnwadric Road  
Thornliebank  
East Renfrewshire G46 8HR**

**email:** d2d@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

**phone:** 0141 577 4053

0141 577 4054

You can also keep up-to-date by visiting:

**www.damstodarnley.org**  
 **www.facebook.com/DamsToDarnleyCountryPark**  
 **www.twitter.com follow us @Dams2Darnley**

## Volunteer days

Volunteer days give you the opportunity to do some practical conservation work within the country park, learn new skills and meet other people. Activities range from habitat management to wildlife surveying. No previous experience is required and all equipment is provided. We meet at 10am every second Thursday at the World Buffet restaurant car park, off Nitshill Road, Darnley. We finish at around 2pm so bring some lunch and dress for the outdoors.

## Dams to Darnley Angling Club

Dams to Darnley Angling Club is run by local anglers with support from Dams to Darnley Country Park and Scottish Water. The club aims to make improvements for angling, promote the conservation of fish and wildlife and encourage responsible access to the countryside. Through events, coaching and social activities the club provides local anglers with tips, tuition and support.

**For more information please contact the countryside rangers.**

## Health walks

Our health walks are slightly longer than others. They cover a distance of up to four miles at a gentle pace and are suitable for all ages and abilities. Walks last approximately 1½ – 2 hours and new walkers are always welcome.



**Walks start at  
10am on Wednesdays  
(all year)**

Leaving from the World Buffet restaurant car park, off Nitshill Road, Darnley.



The starting points for country park events are shown on the map below. A more detailed map, showing path routes, can be found at [www.damstodarnley.org](http://www.damstodarnley.org) or by contacting the countryside rangers.



## How to book

To book places on an event please contact the countryside ranger service on:

**email:** d2d@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

**phone:** 0141 577 4053

0141 577 4054



## Key chart



BOOKING  
REQUIRED



NO BOOKING  
REQUIRED



WEAR  
APPROPRIATE  
CLOTHING



BRING A  
SNACK/  
LUNCH



BRING  
BINOCULARS  
IF YOU HAVE THEM



BRING  
A  
TORCH



WEAR  
SPOOKY  
CLOTHING



## Events Calendar

[www.damstodarnley.org](http://www.damstodarnley.org)





# Events Calendar

## JANUARY

### Reservoir recce

Saturday 23 January, 10am–12noon

**Description:** Start the year as you mean to go on with an energising stroll around the southern end of the country park. This walk will cover approximately four miles at a steady pace.

**Location:** Meet at the Balgray Reservoir car park, Balgraystone Road, off Springfield Road, Barrhead G77 6PG.



## FEBRUARY

### The Birds of Balgray

Sunday 21 February, 1–3pm

**Description:** Bring your binoculars and telescopes and join the countryside rangers on this walk to spot flocks of our winter visiting birds on Balgray Reservoir.

**Location:** Meet at the Balgray Reservoir car park, Balgraystone Road, off Springfield Road, Barrhead, G77 6PG.



## MARCH

### Bird box bonanza

Sunday 6 March, 11am–1pm

**Description:** Do your bit for our garden birds by building them a home. All tools and materials will be provided.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Easter eggcitement

Saturday 19 March, 12–2pm

**Description:** Come along and join the countryside rangers for an array of Easter fun and games for all the family and maybe even a chocolate egg or two!

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley, G53 7RN.



## APRIL

### The pirates of Darnley

Sunday 3 April, 1–3pm

**Description:** Ahoy me hearties! Join the countryside rangers on a pirate quest for the hidden booty.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Holiday hijinks

Tuesday 12 April, 11am–1pm

**Description:** It's the school holidays! So why not come along and join the countryside rangers for some fun and games in the country park?

**Location:** Meet at Patterson overflow car park, OPPOSITE side of Stewarton Road from Patterson Train Station, Newton Mearns, G77 6NR.



### Breakfast with the birds

Saturday 23 April, 5–7am

**Description:** Join the countryside rangers for this walk to hear the amazing sounds of the dawn chorus.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley, G53 7RN.



## MAY

### Spring into spring

Saturday 7 May, 10am–12noon

**Description:** By now the country park is really bursting into life! How many signs of spring can you spot on our gentle stroll?

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Nettle nosh, garlic grub

Sunday 22 May, 10am–12.30pm

**Description:** The Dams to Darnley springtime larder is open, and there's a lot more than nettles and wild garlic on the shelves. Join the countryside rangers to find all that we have in store.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



## JUNE

### What's in the water?

Sunday 5 June, 1–3pm

**Description:** Find out what creatures lurk in our ponds as we spend an afternoon pond dipping for beasts in the country park.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley, G53 7RN.



### Where did you crawl out from?

Saturday 18 June, 11am–1pm

**Description:** It's the eve of National Insect Week, the perfect time for a mini-beast safari. Come and gaze in wonder at the 'herds' of woodlice. Can you spot the 'cheetah' of the forest floor: the deadly centipede?

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



## JULY

### Damselfly and dragons

Thursday 21 July, 1–3pm

**Description:** Are you brave enough to cast a net into our amazing ponds in search of the dragonfly and damselfly nymphs that lie within? Are you quick enough to catch an airborne specimen? Nets and know-how provided by the countryside rangers.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Big butterfly count

Sunday 31 July, 1–3pm

**Description:** Join the countryside rangers as we take part in the country's largest butterfly survey. Learn to identify peacocks, small tortoiseshells and many others. This event is suitable for all ages.

**Location:** Meet at Parkmanor Green, off Parkhouse Road, Parklands Meadow G53 7ZE.



## AUGUST

### The Darnley flower show

Sunday 14 August, 12.30–3pm

**Description:** Last year's flower show was blooming marvellous. Can we go one better this year and identify more than the 40+ species that we saw on last year's walk?

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Darnley dens

Saturday 27 August, 11am–2pm

**Description:** Fancy yourself as a Bear Grylls or Ray Mears? Join the countryside rangers as we build our own shelters. Bring along your lunch and camp out with the family.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



## SEPTEMBER

### The world beneath your feet

Saturday 10 September, 11am–1.30pm

**Description:** Find out about the geology of Dams to Darnley and how the rocks beneath our feet have been used by man over the centuries. Join us for a walk through 320 million years of the country park's history.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### A quick leaf through our history

Sunday 18 September, 12.30–3pm

**Description:** Apart from its great age, what makes the famous Darnley Sycamore so special? Join the countryside rangers to find out, and follow them through the country park for a look at the fascinating folklore behind some of our most common trees.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



## OCTOBER

### Bats need friends too

Tuesday 4 October, 6.30–8.30pm

**Description:** Come along and find out why bats are brilliant. Use bat detectors to 'hear' bats feeding and watch them fly above your head.

**Location:** Meet at Patterson overflow car park, OPPOSITE side of Stewarton Road from Patterson Train Station, Newton Mearns, G77 6NR.



### Stars in your eyes

Friday 7 October, 7–9pm

**Description:** Join the countryside rangers and some experts as we gaze at the stars and the night sky through some astronomical telescopes.

**Location:** Meet at the Balgray Reservoir car park, Balgraystone Road, off Springfield Road, Barrhead G77 6PG.



### Forest factory

Thursday 13 October, 1–3pm

**Description:** Some people call it 'leaf litter', but it's not rubbish to us! Join the countryside rangers and find out how to create some amazing crafts from what lies on the forest floor.

**Location:** Meet at Patterson overflow car park, OPPOSITE side of Stewarton Road from Patterson Train Station, Newton Mearns G77 6NR.



### Bankers for conkers

Sunday 16 October, 11am–1pm

**Description:** A conker is the basis of the great childhood game, but have you heard the rumour that they can be used as a spider deterrent? Why not join us for some open warfare and spider experiments!

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Spooky Saturday

Saturday 29 October, 5.30–7.30pm

**Description:** Join the countryside rangers on our ghostly walk followed by some Halloween games and fun.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



## NOVEMBER

### Mushroom madness and toadstool treasures

Saturday 12 November, 11am–1.30pm

**Description:** Join the countryside rangers and an expert for a walk around Dams to Darnley as we search for some of the amazing fungi we have in the country park.

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



### Paws and pool!

Sunday 27 November, 1–3pm

**Description:** Do you know what an owl pellet is? Can you tell bat poo and mouse poo apart, or the difference between the paw print of a dog and a badger?

**Location:** Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park, Corselet Road, Darnley G53 7RN.



## DECEMBER

### Don't be afraid of the dark

Saturday 10 December, 4–6pm

**Description:** Join us as we experience the sounds and atmosphere of Dams to Darnley after dark.

**Location:** Meet at the Balgray Reservoir car park, Balgraystone Road, off Springfield Road, Barrhead G77 6PG.



### Christmas crafting

Tuesday 13 December, 7–9pm

**Description:** Get crafty this Christmas as we make willow wreaths.

**Location:** Newton Mearns (venue to be confirmed).

