

Venue and Booking Information



Venue

The Windlestrae Hotel & Leisure Club with its attractive landscaped grounds is located just off the M90 in the small town of Kinross. With Loch Leven and the bordering hills as well as Vane Farm RSPB Nature Reserve next door, it is an excellent area for bird watching. All 45 bedrooms are en-suite and are equipped with TV, hospitality tray, ironing facilities, hairdryer, and wireless internet access. The hotel also boasts full leisure facilities including a swimming pool and sauna. For details, visit www.windlestraehotel.com

Public Transport

Megabus and Citylink provide frequent bus services from the North, Perthshire and the Central belt. Visit www.travelinescotland.com or call 0871 200 22 33 for up-to-date timetable details.

Car share

In the interest of reducing the carbon footprint of this year's conference, if you plan to drive, please use the booking form to indicate whether you would be willing to give others in your area a lift.

Charges

The conference fee for residential bookings is £145 per member (£150 for non-members). This includes your delegate fee for both days (incl. tea/coffee), two nights' bed & breakfast, lunch on Sat & Sun, and dinner & entertainment on Saturday. The **conference fee is payable to the SOC.**

Conference Dinner & Ceilidh

The conference dinner will be held in the Macmillan suite of the Windlestrae Hotel. *Non-resident* delegates must book and pay the SOC **in advance** if they wish to attend the Dinner. The cost is £24.00 and includes a three-course meal and live ceilidh band.

Other Meals

Day delegates may have meals in the hotel by completing the enclosed booking form and making payment to the SOC **in advance**. Prices inclusive of dessert and hot & cold refreshments.

Friday evening meal prices in the hotel vary depending on individual choice. A dinner menu will be available on the night for bar meals. To assist hotel catering staff, please indicate on your

booking form if you plan to have a meal in the hotel on Friday evening.

Reservations

Please return the enclosed booking form along with your payment to the SOC. Alternatively, credit/debit card bookings can be made by telephone.

Please note that the Windlestrae will not accept reservations directly from delegates.

Cancellations

Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by 8 October 2010, in which case booking fees will be refunded. For cancellations after this date, please call 01875 871330; if we are able to re-allocate your place, we will issue a full refund.

Registration

Attendees should register on arrival. The Day delegate booking fee includes tea and coffee on arrival and during the conference programme but does not include meals, which must be booked separately on the form. Members who wish to attend the AGM only are not required to pay the conference registration fee but are asked to let the office know in advance that they will attend.

Booking Confirmation

All bookings will be acknowledged in writing and will include directions to the venue. For this purpose, an email address would be preferable. Otherwise, confirmation will be sent by post.



Additional Information

Birdwatching in Fife & Kinross

There are a variety of good birding sites in the local area. Apart from the obvious ones at Vane Farm and Loch Leven, Fife itself has a number of wetland and coastal sites worth visiting in late autumn. One of the best is Lochore Meadows Country Park but several others are close by and accessible from Kinross. Lying along the north shore of the Forth estuary, Torry Bay LNR is excellent for waders and wildfowl while Carlingnose Point and Kinghorn may produce passing sea-birds such as skuas.

Slightly further afield to the east are Birnie and Gaddon Lochs (NO2812), Rossie Bog (NO2711), Angle Park (NO2911) and Kilconquhar Loch (NO4801). All of these are in the same general area west of Cupar and adjacent to the A91. Inland waders, geese and wildfowl are the speciality here. In the far east of Fife are the Tay Estuary (at Tayport), the Eden Estuary and Cameron Reservoir (NO4701). For more information on many of the above sites, visit the Fife Ranger Service website: http://fifecoastandcountrysidetrust.co.uk/sites_9.html

Bird Recording Workshop: A new look at birding and bird recording

The workshop will be led by Clive McKay, SOC Scottish Bird Records Coordinator, and will kick off with an exciting (hopefully!) morning's birding, with the emphasis on how we record what we see, before meeting back at the Windlestrae Hotel for tea/coffee and a practical, interactive seminar (11.30-12.30pm), which will look at how to write up and submit (using BirdTrack) your records.

The session will also provide insights into bird recording in general and how to make your bird records as valuable as possible, and how to make your local bird recorder happy!

If you plan to attend the workshop, please tick the designated box on the conference registration form so that we can provide you with further details when we send you your booking confirmation.

Orwell Ceilidh Band

The Orwell Ceilidh Band is a three-piece band consisting of musicians who specialise in lively, exciting, Scottish ceilidh music and are based in Kinross, Perth, Fife and the Dundee area. The group's accordionist, Gail Paterson, has played on radio and tv including the first series of BBC Scotland's *Monarch of the Glen*. Piper/whistle/guitar player Neil Paterson has performed on radio (solo and in groups) and across Europe. The band takes its name from the Parish of Orwell (Milnathort, where Neil originally hails from, is situated in Orwell Parish). For more information and to hear samples of music, visit <http://www.orwellceilidhband.co.uk/>