



Press Release: 2 June 2015 FOR IMMEDIATE USE

SUMMER EVENTS IN THE FLOW COUNTRY
The more you look the more you see

A programme of free summer events from the Flows to the Future Project starts in earnest this week. The project, which is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, aims to engage as many people, both local residents and visitors, in as many different ways as possible

Angela Simpson, Flows to the Future Communities Officer, points out the various opportunities to get involved, “Why not hop on a minibus in Bettyhill this Saturday to take a journey through the peatlands and learn how to get the best from your camera with expert tuition from Mike Brookes Roper? There are also a number of guided walks in the peatlands throughout June, led by project partners such as RSPB Scotland, Plantlife Scotland and The Highland Council Rangers.

“If creativity is more your thing, why not take inspiration from the peatlands and be guided by Caithness-born writer George

Gunn in a creative writing workshop at Dunbeath Heritage Centre? There will also be an opportunity next month to get your hands muddy in an art workshop with Madeline Mackay at Northlands Creative Glass.”

Up and coming events include:

Saturday 6 June: Landscape Photography with Mike Brookes Roper

Saturday 13 June: Inspirational Wildflowers with Angela Simpson

Saturday 27 June: Creative Writing with George Gunn

Saturday 4 July: Art Workshop with Madeline Mackay

Details can be found on the project’s Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/flowstothefuture

For further information on these and other events and to book a place please call Angela Simpson, Communities Officer on 0786 0927839 or 01641 571225 or email angela.simpson@rspb.org.uk

Some of the images and artwork from these events will be displayed alongside a collection of archive photographs of the peatlands at Caithness Horizons on 27 July to celebrate International Bog Day.

The Flows to the Future project gratefully acknowledges funding support from the Heritage Lottery Fund

PHOTOGRAPH: Guided walk on the Flow Country (Andy Hay – RSPB Images)

Further press releases will be submitted following each event and prior to the exhibition.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Peatlands Partnership includes Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission (Scotland), Highland Council, RSPB Scotland, Plantlife Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, The Highland Third Sector Interface, The Flow Country Rivers Trust, The Northern Deer Management Group and The Environmental Research Institute. It liaises with local community groups, the Scottish Government's Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate and the North Sutherland Community Forest Trust. It is independently chaired by John Henderson of Scrabster Farm, Caithness.

RSPB Scotland is the lead partner in The Flows to the Future project, a Peatlands Partnership project, which gratefully acknowledges funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and from the following funders and supporters; Environmental Research Institute, European Regional Development Fund, Forestry Commission (Scotland), Peatland Action, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, The Highland Council, RSPB, WREN, Scotland Rural Development Programme, Scottish Government, Scottish Natural Heritage and The Tubney Trust.

CONTACT DETAILS

Alan Tissiman RSPB Public Affairs Manager can be contacted on 01463 228810 or 07775 227614 or alan.tissiman@rspb.org.uk

Caroline Eccles Project Manager - Flows to the Future Project, working on behalf of The Peatlands Partnership, Tel. 07590 441475 or caroline.eccles@rspb.org.uk

Ian Mitchell, Secretary, The Peatlands Partnership, c/o Scottish Natural Heritage: Tel 01408 634063 or peatlands_partnership@snh.gov.uk