

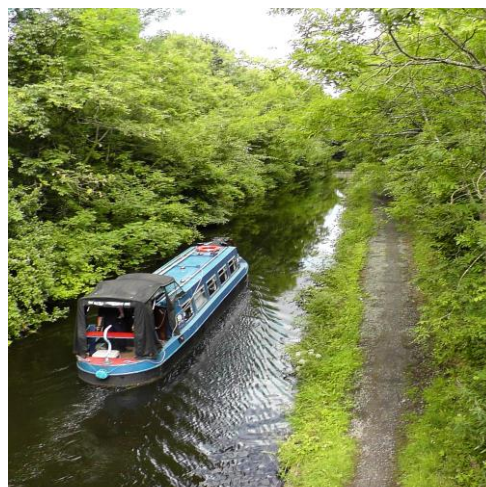
## Rural Connect Newsletter:

### \*\*\*\*\*Special Edition\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome to a special edition of the Rural Connect newsletter. Here you will find all the upcoming Rural Connect events and upcoming dates for 2014. We would love to see everyone coming along to attend the events, or better yet; taking part at the event either as a volunteer, or with a stand to promote a project/group/ or area in West Lothian. If you are interested in taking part in the event or simply learning more about it, then you can get in touch with us either via the general email address below, or contacting the individual member of staff responsible for the event, details of which are on the second page of this newsletter.

[rural.connect@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:rural.connect@sruc.ac.uk)

# RURAL CONNECT



Date	Event	Details
February	<b>The Giant Sunflower Challenge and Scottish Wild Flower Promotion. The West Lothian Schools Bee Garden Competition.</b>	Free packs sent out to schools with new seeds. This will run alongside Project Bee.
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Launch of the John Muir Way</b> across West Lothian.	Doing a WWW in Linlithgow to launch the event.
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Farm Open Day</b> – SRUC – Oatridge	Open day for all people in West Lothian – come and see how a modern farm operates.
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Eco School Event</b> – SRUC Oatridge Campus.	2 pupil and member of staff from all primary and secondary schools in West Lothian.
July - August	<b>Project Bee:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> June at The Centre, Livingston. 2 <sup>nd</sup> July at Almondell and Calderwood. 5 <sup>th</sup> July: Howden Park Livingstone. 13 <sup>th</sup> August: Beecraigs Country Park	Focus across the county looking at the importance of bees in our local and world eco system. Working with the Scottish Beekeeping Association and others.
<b>Wonderful Wild Wednesdays ( WWW)</b>		
July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Almondell & Calderwood Country Park, *Project Bee event.	These events seek to have a strong focus on community partnership working and linking together. The aim is to inform the local communities of what their local environment has to offer them.
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Watson Memorial Park, Armadale.	
July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Craighton Park, Winchburgh.	
July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bowyett Park, Torphican.	
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Quarry Park, Dedridge.	
Aug 6 <sup>th</sup>	Foulshil Park, Stoneyburn.	
Aug 13 <sup>th</sup>	Beecraigs Country Park, * Project Bee event.	
August tbc	SRUC Oatridge Campus WW 1 gardens/ Allotment Open Day	Celebrating the centenary of WW1 with open day to explore allotment gardening.

## DISCOVER

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THIS PROJECT IS PART FINANCED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.  
WEST LOTHIAN LEADER 2008 - 2014 PROGRAMME



Supported by  
**The National Lottery**  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



## 'Top Team Picks'

As always, our team gives their 'top picks' of things to see or do over the next two weeks.

If you follow one of the team's suggestions, please let us know what you thought of their 'top pick'!



**Eric**

Get in touch with Eric if you are interested in the **West Lothian Schools Giant Sunflower Challenge** and **Scottish Wildflower promotion**.

You can also contact Eric for the **World War 1 allotment gardens**.

E-mail: [Eric.Burton@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:Eric.Burton@sruc.ac.uk) . Tel: 01506 864800 x 191



**Russell**

Contact Russell if you are interested in the **West Lothian Project Bee**.

You can also get in touch with him about the series of **Wonderful Wild Wednesday events**.

E-mail: [Russell.smith@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:Russell.smith@sruc.ac.uk) . Tel: 01506 864800 x 192



**Bernice**

Contact Bernice if you are interested in anything to do with **growing/cultivating/ care and maintenance of Willow**, or the **Scottish Wildflower Promotion or the West Lothian Schools Bee Garden Competition**. You can also contact Bernie with anything **relating to outdoor arts and crafts**. Also get in touch with Bernice for the **SRUC Oatridge Allotment Open Day**.

E-mail: [Bernice.keegan@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:Bernice.keegan@sruc.ac.uk) . Tel: 01506 864800 x 192



**Jemma**

Contact Jemma if you would like to find out about the **SRUC Oatridge Farm Open Day**, and the **West Lothian ECO-School event** (please note: invites will be sent out shortly for this event).

E-mail: [jemma.black@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:jemma.black@sruc.ac.uk) . Tel: 01506 864800 x 193