



# TAY VIEWS

A PUBLICATION BY THE TAY ESTUARY FORUM: PROMOTING THE WISE AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE TAY ESTUARY AND ITS ADJACENT COASTLINE

ISSUE 34: Autumn 2012

Summer 2012 has been busy for TEF members, who have been out and about the region getting involved with litter picks, environmental initiatives and local events, some of which are covered in this issue. The TEF along with Dr Fraser Milne (University of Dundee) are planning to present a paper on Sectoral Interactions at the Coast at this year's *Littoral 2012* Conference, themed *Coasts of Tomorrow* this November (27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>) in Oostende, Belgium. More details on registering for the event can be found in Item 6 or at: <http://www.littoral2012.eu/>. Any further information you require on the articles featured in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Laura Booth (Project Officer)

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To join the TEF mailing list or to put forward your views, articles or pictures contact:

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## 1: TEF UPDATE

- Last TEF Steering Group meeting **June 15th 2012** at University of Dundee.
- Next Steering Group meeting **Oct 11th 2012** at University of St Andrews
- TEF end of year review meeting with Marine Scotland took place on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012 in Edinburgh.
- LCP Project Officers' NMPi training in Aberdeen August 2012
- Angus Shoreline Mgmt Plan II process continuing
- TEF now sits on SEPA's Flood Risk Management Tay Area Group.
- TEF website being moved to a new address soon.

1562-2012  
**450**  
years of golf  
in **MONTROSE**

## 2. Riverside Nature Park Plinths: Opening Launch

Professor Rob Duck, Chair of the Tay Estuary Forum, and Project Officer, Laura Booth were invited along to the unveiling of Riverside Nature Park's information panels on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Despite a rather drizzly, overcast day, the mood was decidedly sunny as plenty of people turned up to witness the launch of the site's information panels, which mark the pinnacle of a lot of hard work by Dundee City Council over the past few years in landscaping this former landfill site along Dundee's Riverside.



After some brief addresses, the plinths were officially opened by Rob Duck wielding a pair of secateurs! Attendees were then given the chance to explore the park on two guided walks looking at either the engineering involved in creating the site, or the natural habitat. A good time was had by all, as the pictures prove! The site is open to the public to enjoy and provides an excellent, accessible arena to view the scenery of the inner Tay Estuary, and to observe the wildlife that thrive here.



The land at Riverside Nature Park was created from 1967-1996. The land-fill site is full and has been closed. Landscaping the site was a great opportunity to create something new for Dundee - a park for everyone to enjoy with new wildlife habitats.

The park is ideal for watching the birds which make the Tay Estuary so important. There are views over the estuary from many paths. Visit the bird hides overlooking Invergowrie Bay, and you should see different birds at different times of the day. They will be feeding on the mud flats at low tide or roosting at high tide. There is information on the birds you may see at the hide.

The estuary birds visit the park too. Have a look into the grazed fields and around the pools especially when the tide is in.

At Riverside Nature Park you will find the largest wildflower meadows in Dundee. They have been created on what used to be piles of rubbish. In summer they are a riot of colour attracting beautiful butterflies, bees and hoverflies.

### Riverside Nature Park

Riverside Nature Park is part of a remarkable engineering project started in 1830, which has created almost a square mile of land along the waterfront.

This map is based on Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HM Government. Crown Copyright and database right 2011. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey license number: 100019731. Map/Design: site copyright © Landscape Design Team: Dundee City Council and Marketing & Design (Landscape and Culture Dundee)

**Key:**

- Entrance / Exit Information
- Bus Stop
- Parking / Cyclestand
- Green Circular route
- Signpost Section
- Raised Wildlife Sanctuary

Thanks to Dundee City Council and everyone who turned up on the day.

For more information please visit:  
<http://www.dundee.gov.uk/environment/riversidenature/>



### 3. SCOTLAND'S COASTAL HERITAGE AT RISK: an exciting new project in the Tay Estuary Forum area

The SCAPE Trust is actively recruiting citizen archaeologists in the TEF area to join their new project to improve information about the condition of archaeological and historical sites on the coast. Surveys have shown that there are hundreds of coastal sites threatened by erosion, ranging from the vanishing remains of former industry and settlement to local landmarks such as the Pile Lighthouse and Boddin Limekilns to iconic national treasures such as Skara Brae in Orkney. Erosion is a natural process, but parts of Scotland's coast are experiencing increasingly rapid change and it is difficult to keep up with what is being destroyed or revealed.



Joanna Hambly, a project officer with the project, said: "Local people know their own coastline, so they are in the best position to notice changes to it. We want to hear from people about recent changes to archaeological and historic sites. Previous surveys regarded some sites as a high priority for action, but these may now have been destroyed.

You don't need any special skills or experience to become a citizen archaeologist and volunteer with the project. In return for your time and input, the project will provide you with the training and support you need to confidently carry out coastal surveys. An interactive map and smart phone app have been specially developed for the project, which will make accessing current information about coastal heritage and submitting new information very straightforward. We also want to hear about new sites that have been revealed due to erosion. Sites that are of particular interest to us in the Tay area include the remains of wharfs, hulks and building foundations in Wormit and a possible prehistoric land surface at Balmerino".



In the second stage of the project, practical action will be undertaken at 12 coastal sites identified during the community surveys. Tom Dawson of the SCAPE Trust said that community groups have been vital in the past in taking a local lead in fieldwork and interpretation projects. "We want people to tell us what sites are important to them, and what they think should be done at them. This could be straightforward archaeological recording, but we are also very interested in other types of projects, for example, involving artists, film makers or writers. We will team local groups around Scotland with professionals to help them complete their projects at eroding sites."

If you enjoy being at the coast and would like to find out more about your local heritage, have a look at our new website [www.ssharp.co.uk](http://www.ssharp.co.uk) where you can find out what's been recorded in your area; along with much more information about the project and how to get involved. We'd also love to hear from community groups who are looking for a challenge to help us with the surveys. You can contact us at [info@ssharp.co.uk](mailto:info@ssharp.co.uk).

#### Images from top- base of page:

1. Late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century shipwreck, Monifieth
2. Wreck on the foreshore at Wormit
3. 18<sup>th</sup> century navigation beacon, Scurdie Ness
4. World War 2 tank traps, Tentsmuir



4.



A message from the Keep Scotland Beautiful team:  
Thank you for promoting National Spring Clean 2012!

Thank you for helping to tackle the blight of litter in Scotland by promoting National Spring Clean 2012. Thanks to the support of a myriad of charities, businesses and organisations such as yourselves, the campaign reached far and wide, engaging almost 120,000 Scots from Shetland to the Scottish Borders.

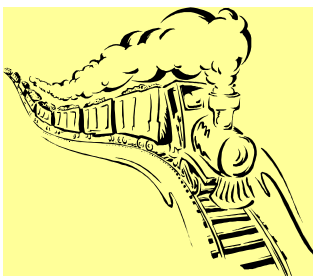
Around 1,100 tonnes of litter were removed from across Scotland in what we estimate is the largest mobilisation of the Scottish public since World War Two.

We'd love your support in promoting the campaign next year and will be working hard in the meantime through education and enforcement to help ensure that our beautiful country remains clean.

If you, or anyone else would like to take part in a Clean Up before next year's campaign we can supply FREE clean up kits, these can be ordered from:  
[www.keepsotlandtidy.org/cleanupkit.asp](http://www.keepsotlandtidy.org/cleanupkit.asp)

Thank you again for your kind and valuable support!

Best wishes  
Environmental Quality team



Travelling by Train along the Tay? Click on the link (below) for Tayside Biodiversity's Leaflet, on Wildlife to look out for!

See <http://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk/> for more information on local biodiversity and Geodiversity.

[http://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk/Events/Travelling Along Tay Wildlife Leaflet.pdf](http://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk/Events/Travelling%20Along%20Tay%20Wildlife%20Leaflet.pdf)

## 5. Panmurefield Litter Pick at the Dighty

(images courtesy of D. Wishart, Catchment Tay Ltd).

On the afternoon of Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012, several volunteers donned their wellies and gathered for a clean-up involving Veolia Water, Catchment Tay Ltd, Scottish Water and University of Abertay at Panmurefield screening station at Mossy Brae. The clean-up covered the area west of the bridge at Wyvis Road to the bridge past the cottages at the end of Mass Brae, including the park and both sides of the river and as much of the river bank as possible.

Litter pickers cleared a large amount of debris from the river, most of which had collected at the bridge, causing a blockage, including plastics, litter and dumped material, enough to fill a small skip! (seen below).

Efforts are being made to gain access to recycling bins at the site to make it easier for people to dispose of rubbish rather than it ending up in the river.

**This clean-up was registered with the Keep Scotland Beautiful campaign.**





OOSTENDE | 27-29 NOV 2012 | INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# LITTORAL

**REGISTER NOW!**

## LITTORAL 2012 | COASTS OF TOMORROW PROGRAMME NOW PUBLISHED

The City of Oostende, at the heart of Belgium's coast, will proudly host the **11TH LITTORAL CONFERENCE**, the biannual international conference of the Coastal and Marine Union – EUCC and EUROCOAST, from 27-29 November of 2012. We warmly invite coastal practitioners, researchers and policy makers and anyone interested to register and participate at this year's conference.

The full program is now available at [www.littoral2012.eu](http://www.littoral2012.eu).

The program is packed with interesting **keynotes**, **sessions**, **workshops** and a **showcase exhibition**. Moreover, we will also be hosting a high level **debate**. With a Belgian **dinner**, plenty of time to socialize and a choice of **excursions**, you will also be having a pleasant time in Ostend!

**The early bird registration has been extended to 15 September 2012. Make sure to register in time! Full-time students pay just €125, EUCC members are eligible for a €50 discount!**

### KEYNOTES BY

Brian Shipman, Marc Stordiau, Marko Prem, Robin McInnes and Bela Buck

### SESSIONS ON

Coastal management, Measuring sustainability, Coastal infrastructure, Coastal conservation

### WORKSHOPS

Coastal governance, The SUSTAIN project, Climate of Coastal Cooperation

### EXCURSIONS TO

Yser Estuary, Zwin nature reserve, Port of Zeebrugge, C-power offshore wind farm

The registration of abstracts for oral presentations is now closed. **However, you can still send in your poster abstract before 15 October** and your abstract will still be printed in the VLIZ Special Publication Abstract book!

**MORE INFORMATION |**  
[www.littoral2012.eu](http://www.littoral2012.eu)  
**CONTACT**  
[info@littoral2012.eu](mailto:info@littoral2012.eu)  
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**EARLY REGISTRATION:**  
15 september 2012

**POSTER SUBMISSION:**  
15 october 2012

**LATE REGISTRATION:**  
1 november 2012

**CONFERENCE:**  
27-29 november 2012

On behalf of the organizing committee:

**SCIENTIFIC CHAIR:** Prof. Dr. Jan Mees – Director of the Flanders Marine Institute

**HONORARY CHAIR:** Prof. Dr. Johan Vande Lanotte – Belgium's Minister for the North Sea

**ORGANIZING CHAIR:** Kathy Belpaeme – Coordination Centre for ICZM

