



UK Swift Awareness Week



During 2018 the UK will become the first country in the world to dedicate a national week in support of Swifts. The first Swift Awareness Week will run from 16th until 23rd June. There will be events and publicity all around the country, organised by dozens of local Swift groups. These events aim to raise awareness of Swifts and bring a focus to their plight, and of course provide information about how to help them.

The Swift is one of the few endangered species that individuals really can help in their own property and there are many voluntary groups across the country working hard to try to halt their dramatic decline of over 62% in the past 20 years or so. Tayside Swifts will have a number of **FREE events** taking place to celebrate Swift Awareness Week:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Meeting Place</i>
Saturday, 16 th June	8.30pm	Super Swifts of Pitlochry – a guided walk*	Meet outside the Visit Scotland Office, 22 Atholl Rd, Pitlochry, PH16 5BX
Friday, 22 nd June	8.30pm	Super Swifts of Blair Atholl – a guided walk*	Meet outside the Atholl Estates Ranger Centre, Blair Atholl, PH18 5SP
Saturday, 7 th July	8.30pm	Find out about Swifts in Edzell	Meet in front of the Panmure Arms, 52 High St, Edzell, DD9 7TA
Friday 13 th July	8.30pm	Find out about Swifts in Kirriemuir	Meet in front of the Peter Pan statue by the Gateway to the Glens Museum, 2 High St, Kirriemuir, DD8 4BB
Keep in touch via the Tayside Swifts Facebook page		Check www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk for details of other Swift walks in Tayside	

* Further details: learn all about the amazing ecology of this enigmatic bird and what the Pitlochry Swift Conservation Project is doing to help conserve our swifts. Did you know that young swifts can fly for two or three years without stopping? Why have swift numbers dropped so much in recent years and how can we all help? Each walk is about a mile long on pavements – wear sturdy shoes or boots, bring warm clothes and waterproofs, and binoculars if you have them. Prizes for everyone who spots a swift! We'll also have some bat detectors to pick up the mysterious sounds of these midge-munching mammals! This walk is suitable for everyone including families.

All walks are free of charge.

For more information, contact the Project Officer Daniele Muir on dmuir@taysideswifts.co.uk or perthshirewildlife@gmail.com