

Ravenswood Bog & Orchid Meadow



participate in the future

We publish a Greenspace Diary every year. There you will find details of all free events and activities happening not just at Ravenswood but at sites all across North Lanarkshire.

For more information please contact

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Photographs courtesy of North Lanarkshire Council, RSPB, Jimmy Maxwell, Ruth McGuire



Ravenswood Bog & Orchid Meadow

discover
 enjoy

participate



discover the past

Ravenswood bog and orchid meadow is a very special place. Despite being close to busy main roads it remains a haven and refuge for local wildlife. Fox and roe deer live and breed here. Kestrels and buzzards are frequently seen over the open meadows hunting small mammals.



Skylark can be heard on top of Rabbit hill



In spring and summertime the deer are seen with their young

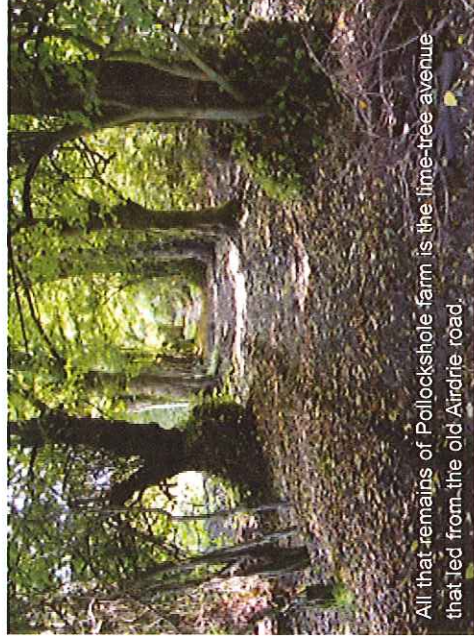
The display of wild orchids in the wet meadow and woodland edges in summer is stunning with 5 different kinds growing here. The meadow also supports a variety of butterflies, moths and other insects which in turn support other wildlife such as hedgehogs and frogs.

1 broad-headed helleborine 2 northern marsh orchid 3 twayblade 4 common spotted orchid 5 greater butterfly orchid



enjoy the present

For hundreds of years Ravenswood and Pollockshole were farms on the Cumbernauld Estate. Records show that the original Ravenswood House was an early medieval retreat for The Bishop and Clergy from Glasgow. It was demolished in the 1960's to make way for building of Our Lady's High School.



All that remains of Pollockshole farm is the lime-tree avenue that led from the old Airdrie road.

A document from 1684 tells us that the farm tenant of Pollockshole had to pay to the Earl of Wigton in Cumbernauld House an annual rent of 101 Scots pounds, one veal calf, two furlots of barley, and twelve hens. Pollockshole continued as a working farm up to 1964 when the lands were purchased by the Cumbernauld Development Corporation. Much of the farmland was spread with subsoil from the building of Condorrat and nearby roads. Nature then took its course, and wildflowers flourished, creating the wildlife sanctuary it is today .

enjoy the present

Ravenswood is an enjoyable place to take a stroll, cycle or perhaps take your dog for a walk. There is a good surfaced path and boardwalk which will take you across the wet meadow where you can see greater butterfly, northern marsh and common spotted orchids. Look out for the impressive 6 spot burnet moths. If you are lucky you may catch a glimpse of one of our rarest butterflies the small pearl bordered fritillary. Finally, the path takes you past Pollocks Pond and then along the old tree lined avenue of Pollockshole Farm.



6 spot burnet moth



small pearl bordered fritillary

There is also a wealth of birdlife to see and hear, grasshopper warbler, sedge warbler, reed bunting and snipe. Summer or winter there is always something to appreciate in Ravenswood's own nature reserve

