Sphagnum, an immensely colourful and ecologically important genus, is here in plenty within easy reach of Kindrogan. Most of the British species will be seen, by visiting some fine examples of Scotland's woodlands, forests, bogs and lochs.

Kindrogan Field Studies Centre
Enochdhu, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, PH10 7PG

Nestled in the Scottish Highlands, Kindrogan is within close reach of some of the most secluded parts of the UK, allowing for inspiring landscapes and rich wildlife to feature in their courses.
The course will establish confidence in field identification, and will thus enable full use to be made of the numerous ecological indicator species of Sphagnum. It is a course that will appeal to keen amateurs, as well as to professionals interested in land management and national vegetation classification (NVC).

Emphasis will be placed on field characteristics backed up by work in the laboratory, including the use of identification keys. There will also be opportunities to study special interests, as individual guidance will be given at all levels.

Provisional Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Introduction to Sphagnum after dinner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>morning: Field Work in wet woodland.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>morning: Field work in wetland sites by lochs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>morning: Field work on blanket mire and flushed slopes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Departure after breakfast</td>
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Recommended Reading:


About the Tutor

Nick Hodgetts is a botanical consultant with 30 years of experience as a bryologist. He has a background in the voluntary and statutory conservation sectors and is now self-employed.
What to Bring -

- Lunch Box, vacuum flask
- Wellingtons and or waterproof walking boots
- Plenty of spare warm waterproof clothing
- Fine Forceps (blunt-ended tweezers are not suitable)
- Fine scalpel (eq Swan Morton, number 11)
- Selection of small polythene bags
- Small notebook and pencil
- Old newspapers (for making moss packets)

For your own and group safety, Centre staff reserve the right to refuse to take people out on excursions if they are not properly equipped. If you are unsure of the standard of equipment required, please contact us for advice. Please see above information for details of any other equipment required as suggested by your Course Tutor.

Also...in addition to normal clothing for a stay away from home, visitors should bring:
- Rucksack to carry spare clothing and lunch if your course incurs field trips away from the centre.
- Towels will be provided but do bring toothpaste, soap, shower gel, hairdryer and own toiletries
- If you bring any electrical appliance to the Centre it may have to be checked before use.

** We have wellingtons and waterproofs available for hire at the centre.**

How to Book

Booking Procedure:

To book a place on this course you can either:

a) Complete a booking form from the brochure and send it together with a deposit of £50.00 (cheque payable to Field Studies Council Limited) or advise debit/credit card number.

b) Book online at www.field-studies-council.org

c) Telephone 01250 870150 to book directly with Kindrogan (card payments made over the phone)

Provisional bookings should be made by telephone. Payment of the balance of the course fee will be 30 days before the beginning of the course. Cancellation after this date may leave the customer liable for the full amount – a condition which is accepted when the booking is confirmed.

It is highly recommended that all visitors have adequate insurance cover at all times and Field Studies Council now have an agreement in place with Zurich Insurance plc who have arranged a blanket insurance policy for all FSC course participants, the details of this will be sent to you upon booking.
Course Fees & What’s Included:

- Resident £280 Sole Occupancy or £240 Shared Accommodation.
- Non Resident £180 (everything except bed and breakfast)
- Full professional tuition, full board accommodation including cooked breakfast, packed lunch, Tea/Coffee, homemade cakes and an evening meal.
- Vegetarian and other dietary options are catered for.

Arrival and Departure Times –

Resident and Non-resident visitors are requested to arrive at the centre before 7pm on the 22nd and report to reception. Evening meal will be served at 7.30pm and the course will commence after a brief welcome to Kindrogan. Tuition will end on the evening of the 25th with departure after breakfast on the 26th.

If you would like to extend your visit we can offer accommodation on a Bed and Breakfast or Dinner Bed and Breakfast basis, please contact the office on 01250 870150 to check on availability prior to your visit.

Your room at Kindrogan

We have a limited number of en-suite rooms in the main house for single/shared occupancy, these are subject to availability at the time of the course. We can offer twin rooms also for single/shared occupancy with shared toilets and showers in our Steading accommodation. We can also offer a single room with shared toilets and showers at a discounted rate in our Ardle accommodation.

General Information

Messages and Post
Post is collected and delivered daily at around 12 noon. Some mobile phone networks do not provide a signal at Kindrogan (Vodafone and O2 give the best reception), but there are two payphones which accept incoming calls.
Post or messages for guests will be left at reception for collection. Wireless internet is available throughout the majority of the centre.

Meals

**Breakfast** is normally served at 8am, though some courses opt for a 7.30am breakfast. There is the usual choice of fruit juice, cereals, toast and cooked breakfast.

**Packed Lunch (7.30am – 9am).** Guests make up their own packed lunches from a large choice of sandwich fillings, fruit & biscuits. Tea, coffee and juice are provided for your flask or water bottle.

**Evening Meal.** A three course evening meal is normally served at 6.30pm. Guests may be asked to assist with clearing their own table between courses and at the end of the meal. Please ensure that the Centre knows well in advance of any special dietary / medical requirements, (i.e. vegetarian, vegan, wheat intolerance and allergies). Hot drinks and juice are available at the tea and coffee stations.

Fitness and Safety

Many of the courses at Kindrogan require a reasonable level of fitness. Please inform Centre staff if you are worried about the state of your health or your fitness level. Even though course tutors always carry safety and first aid equipment, they cannot lead people on excursions, especially in the mountains, if they consider their health or equipment to be unsatisfactory.

If you bring any electrical appliance to the Centre it may have to be checked before use.

Transport during the Course

This transport is included in the total cost of your course. Many courses make use of a Centre minibus but, if it is unavailable, volunteers may be requested to use their own vehicles to transport the group on field excursions, for which they will be reimbursed at the FSC mileage rate prevailing at the time of the course. Please note if you choose to use your own vehicle when one is supplied by us, you will not be reimbursed.

How to get to Kindrogan

Although once you arrive at Kindrogan you get the feeling of being remote and in the wilds, we are incredibly accessible. We can easily be accessed by road or rail.
**By Road**

We can be easily reached from Perth (South) or Inverness (North) by following the A9 to Pitlochry, then taking the A924 towards Braemar for roughly 11 miles until the Enochdhu road sign is reached. Shortly after this sign take a forest road signposted for Kindrogan on the right just before the bridge. **By local agreement we request you do not use the entrance at the Straloch end of the track which your satnav aid may suggest.**

The Centre is about ¾ of a mile along this track. Please observe the speed limit of 20mph on this track.

From Blairgowrie or the Tourist Route from Perth, follow the A93 towards Braemar. At Bridge of Cally, 6 miles after Blairgowrie, turn left towards Pitlochry. 2 miles after Kirkmichael, the Enochdhu road sign is reached. Turn left immediately after the bridge. Kindrogan is signposted and the Centre is about 3/4 of a mile along this track which has a 20 mph speed limit.

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**By Rail or Coach**

The nearest rail station and coach stop is Pitlochry, 11 miles away. We arrange a collection by minibus from Pitlochry train station usually arranged to meet the 18:30 train. We will return you for the 09:20 train. If you need transport to be arranged from Pitlochry, please let us know well in advance. We recommend you take out travel insurance for trains etc in case courses are cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances or low bookings. If you wish to arrange your own transport from Pitlochry there are several Taxi companies operating namely Elizabeth Yule (01796 472290), Pitlochry Taxis (01796 481286) and SR Taxis (01796 473931).
In the area...

The nearest village shop is in Kirkmichael which is about 3 miles from the centre, it has a post office, well stocked provisions and is the nearest petrol /diesel station.

The Cateran Trail follows the footsteps of 16th century cattle rustlers (caterans) for 63 miles (101km). It starts from Blairgowrie and passes through Kirkmichael, Enochdhu (Kindrogan) and sections of this can easily be walked from Kindrogan, in fact you can walk part of this to Kirkmichael and back or head up into the hills towards the Spittal of Glenshee.
There is a ‘Kindrogan’ mentioned on early maps circa 1690 and through several family ownerships the building has been added to over the years. In 1963 the house was purchased from the forestry commission by the Scottish Field Studies Association (SFSA) and became a field centre, the first in Scotland. In 2009 it was gifted to FSC since when a program of improvements have been implemented.

The main house staircase was recently re-decorated and a tartan carpet laid throughout the entrance area. The main house has 15 bedrooms which are mainly dormitory style, two lounge areas, main office, dining room, a bar with local beers and whiskies, reception, shop, waterproof and wellington boot hire, drying room and a library. At the rear of the main building we have 3 classrooms and tutor’s resources.

The downstairs adult coffee lounge offers a relaxing atmosphere where you can sit in comfort and read the paper – go online and catch up on your emails! or just sit and relax with a cup of tea or coffee.

The library which has over 2500 books covering Ecology – Environment, local history, which includes in excess of 100 of the ‘New Naturalist’ series books as well as a comprehensive range of species identification books covering Fauna and Flora.

The majority of the bedrooms in the main house are en-suite and comprise of 1 single, 3 twin and a mixture of dormitory style bedrooms that can sleep up to a maximum of 8 in single / bunk bed combinations.

A typical twin bedroom in the external Steading accommodation which was converted from farm buildings throughout the late 1980’s and completed in 1994. The Steading provides 3 classrooms and three bedroom complexes that can sleep a total of 55, 17 of which are single rooms in our Ardle building. There is a centrally positioned tea–coffee station from where you may be able to see wildlife such as deer – pine martens and wildcats.

We have 6 classrooms, 5 of which have interactive whiteboards. The Rannoch and Tummel classrooms can seat 30 students, the Fearnach can seat around 40, the Brerechan is an ‘L’ shaped room that can seat 70 making it ideal for large group presentations and we have a small classroom that will seat 12 – 15.

The dining room offers comfortable seating of up to 80 in a single sitting and can lend itself to be used for ‘meet and greet’ occasions where we can offer a buffet or light lunch (soup and sandwiches) and drinks on arrival.