

John F. Robins, Secretary and Campaigns Consultant, Animal Concern,  
Post Office Box 5178, Dumbarton G82 5YJ. Tel. 01389-841-639, Mobile: 07721-605521.  
E-MAIL: [animals@jfrobins.force9.co.uk](mailto:animals@jfrobins.force9.co.uk) website: <http://www.animalconcern.org/>  
Animal Concern is a pressure group registered as a non-profit making Limited Company  
(Co. No. SC109126) established in 1988 as Animal Concern (Scotland) Ltd.  
It incorporates the Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society which was founded in 1876.

*To supporters of Animal Concern, Animal Concern Advice Line and the Scottish  
Anti-Vivisection Society.*

**A Robins Rant and a few things for you to do.**

Hi All,

Hope I find you fit and well on this historic day. Today is the day Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) becomes NatureScot. I've already got a vision of a load of hairy arsed nudists playing volleyball in the heather while feeding the midges.

One of the reasons the Scottish Government Environment Department is changing its name yet again is because SNH has had a lot of negative publicity due to their failure to protect the environment and the creatures which inhabit that environment. Rather than change the way they work it is cheaper (£63K) to change the name to something daft in the hope we will all be fooled into thinking it really is an agency that cares for nature and wild animals instead of pandering to those who exploit our environment and persecute our wildlife.

The new NatureScot website boasts: "Our brand is a confident, positive statement, which creates a strong platform for all of our communications when used correctly. A professional and consistent approach helps people to recognise our work and put their trust in what we have to say." And that's one of the better written bits! It is worth going to their website just to acquaint yourself with how the English language has been culled, clipped, managed and mangled by those who think we should trust them to protect our natural heritage.

I must admit the name NatureScot has a certain ring to it. It sounds like the death knell of a desperate department trying to look hip instead of hypocritic.

If NatureScot is going to change for the better it would do well to start by culling the culling mentality which was at the very heart of the Scottish Government. In 2011 Scot Gov gave seals protection while issuing licences to allow the killing to continue. Last year they did the same with beavers and this year mountain hare got the same pseudo "protection".

There is one big change. Up until yesterday anyone could legally kill unlimited numbers of around a dozen species of native wild birds just by reading and complying with a licence on the SNH website. From today they won't be able to do that. From today they'll have to go to the "NatureScot" website and read the licence there. It might be too big a leap for some of the numpties who use the General Licence to excuse their mass killing sprees.

If you see any publicity about the SNH name change please send off letters/emails to the press pointing out that SNH needed a change of heart and direction, not a change of name.

If you're in the mood for writing I've a few important things that would welcome your input.

Created by Robert Curtis this petition is to the Westminster Parliament so it's for UK residents only. This is an issue Animal Concern have been lobbying on for many years: "For the sake of wildlife & forests ban the release of balloons and sky lanterns". It closes on 15/11/20 <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/310556>

Another one for UK residents only. If you've not already done so please visit this very user-friendly website to support the Wild Justice campaign against persecution of hen harriers. <https://wildjustice.eaction.org.uk/saveourskydancers> You can personalise the email you send. I added;

***"The driven grouse shooting brigade have had decades to get their act together and put an end to illegal raptor persecution. They have failed.***

***They also have the legal right to wipe out just about anything else that might eat a grouse egg or chick. That is no longer acceptable.***

***I don't want driven grouse shooting licensed or controlled. I want it made illegal"***

Another bit of good news, so long as the new law is used sensibly, this time for dogs in Germany. <https://www.scottishlegal.com/article/and-finally-walkies-3>

Did you know that in the UK, so long as a dog is fed and watered every 24 hours, you don't have to walk it or make sure it gets exercise or social contact?

This doesn't need any action, just another bit of good news to read:

<https://www.testbiotech.org/en/press-release/no-patents-genetically-engineered-chimpanzees>

This isn't very good news but makes thought provoking reading:

<https://www.independentsciencenews.org/news/engineered-covid-19-infected-mouse-bites-researcher-amid-explosion-of-risky-coronavirus-research/> (Thanks to Colin at GM News for those last two items)

There's more about our campaigns on our website news pages. Take a look and put a smile on our webmasters face – he doesn't get many visitors :

<http://www.animalconcern.org/news.htm>

Remember feel free to forward this email to any friends you think might be interested.

Cheers4now,

John