

ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (SCOTTISH BRANCH)

WINTER SEMINAR AND AGM

Camperdown Wildlife Centre, Camperdown Country Park,
Coupar Angus Road, Dundee. DD2 4TF.

SATURDAY 25th JANUARY 2020



The Scottish Branch's winter seminar and AGM will take place at the Camperdown Park, Dundee on Saturday 25th January 2020.

This appropriate setting is easily accessed and provides many mature specimen trees for use to take in during our guided walk.

Camperdown has been specifically chosen because it was the base for Eric Hamilton during his long tenure at Dundee City Council. We will be planting a tree to honour Eric's memory and hope you can join us in doing so.

There is also a "Burn's Night" on the Friday before; please see below for details.

Booking: The event is **free of charge** and all members and non-members are welcome to attend. Spaces are limited, however, so please register your attendance in advance, no later than Monday 20th January 2020 please, by booking online at: <https://www.trees.org.uk/Training-And-Events>

Venue: Camperdown Wildlife Centre, Camperdown Country Park, Coupar Angus Road, Dundee. DD2 4TF.
Click [here](#) for directions to the Wildlife Centre.

Programme:

The event will be held in the Wildlife Centre.

- Friday evening “Burn’s night” celebration, please refer to next page for details.
- 9.00 Assemble for tea and coffee.
- 9.30 Welcome and introduction by Chris Simpson, Scottish Branch Chair.
- 9.40 Presentation by Paul Muir, Static load testing of trees.
- 11.10 Tea & Coffee.
- 11.30 The assessment of tree forks – Dr. Duncan Slater.
- 13.00 Lunch.
- 13.45 Presentation of the Ken Martin memorial award for services to arboriculture in Scotland.
- 14.00 Presentation of the Tom Hall memorial literary prize.
- 14.10 Scottish Branch Annual General Meeting (see separate agenda).
- 14.30 Commemorative tree planting, in memory of Eric Hamilton.
- 15.00 Walk to be led by Dr. Duncan Slater (assessing tree forks).
- 16.00 Close.



Social Event – Friday 24th January 2020

Venue:
The Birkhill Inn
124 Coupar Angus Road
Birkhill,
By Dundee
DD2 5PG.

Meal and Drinks at the Birkhill Inn to socialize and remember the life of Eric Hamilton.

Meeting from 18.00
Table booked for 19.30

There is a range of accommodation options in Dundee including the following nearby.

Premier Inn, Dundee North
Travelodge Dundee
Landal Piperadam, Fowlis by Dundee

There is no requirement to book attendance at this event but please let our secretary (Struan Dalglish) know if you plan to come along.

Contact: struan@sdarbor.com

2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.00pm on Saturday 25th January 2020 at Camperdown Country Park

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of 2018 AGM Minutes
3. Matters arising from the 2018 AGM Minutes
4. Officers' reports
 - 4.1 Chairman
 - 4.2 Secretary
 - 4.3 Treasurer
5. Appointment of Committee
6. Election of Officers
 - 6.1 Chair
 - 6.2 Vice-Chair
 - 6.3 Secretary
 - 6.4 Treasurer
7. Any other competent AGM business

Any AGM queries or agenda items to: Chris Simpson (Chair) on:
07881 677813 or informedtree@btinternet.com

Minutes of the previous AGM held at the Scottish School of Forestry on 26th January 2019 are available online at the AA website [Scottish Branch page](#).

Presentation details:

Talk 1: Static load testing of trees

Presented by: Paul Muir

Paul is a principal arboricultural consultant at Treework Environmental Practice and is the leading expert in tree statics in the UK.

Abstract:

Paul will give a talk on the theory behind tree statics and the static load test and will offer suggestions on how the core principles behind the theory can be used to inform management decisions for trees based on experience derived from testing over 200 trees, over 15 years.

Talk 2: Joining the Dots

Presented by: Dr. Duncan Slater

Dr. Slater is a senior lecturer in arboriculture at Myerscough College, Lancashire, a professional member of the Arboricultural Association and a chartered forester. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Forestry, a bachelor of Arts Honours in Philosophy, a Master's degree in Resource Management, a Master's degree in Education and a PhD in Plant Sciences. His research interests are in the areas of tree biomechanics, tree pathology, tree nursery techniques and urban forestry.

Bio

Duncan has been carrying out research on branch junctions for ten years now and has published over fifteen journal papers on this specific topic – which is of importance for all those surveying, managing and pruning trees. A substantial advance has been the finding of the association between natural bracing in a tree and the formation of included bark, but there is still much more to explore and clarify about branch junctions.

Abstract

In this talk, Dr. Duncan Slater will outline the latest scientific work on branch junctions (including an overview of branch junction anatomy, the role of axillary wood and how to make a bark inclusion) with illustrations and physical samples. We will then consider where the knowledge gaps are on this topic through discussion and how these might be lessened through further research and the sharing of information and relevant experience.

