

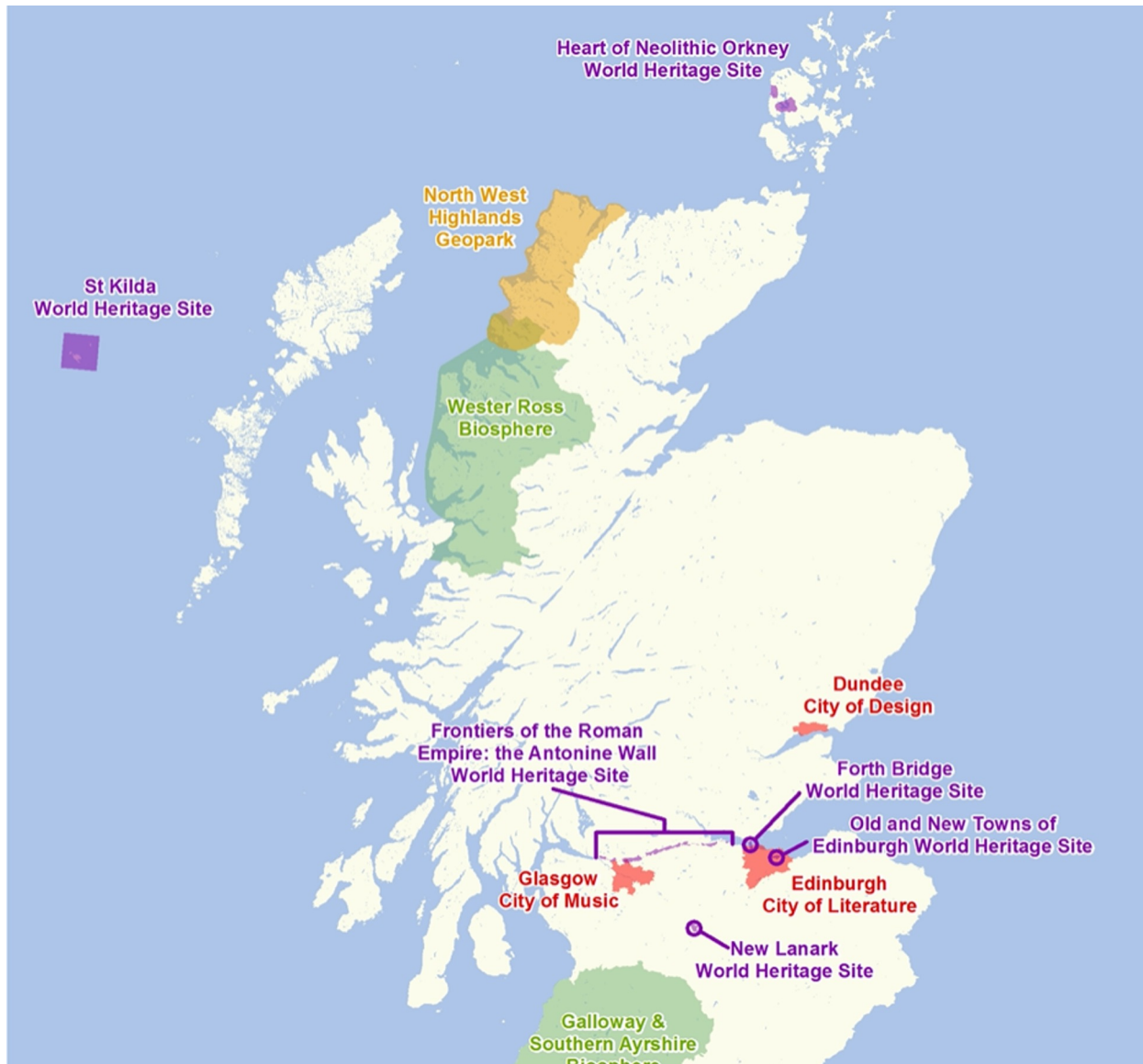
WESTER ROSS



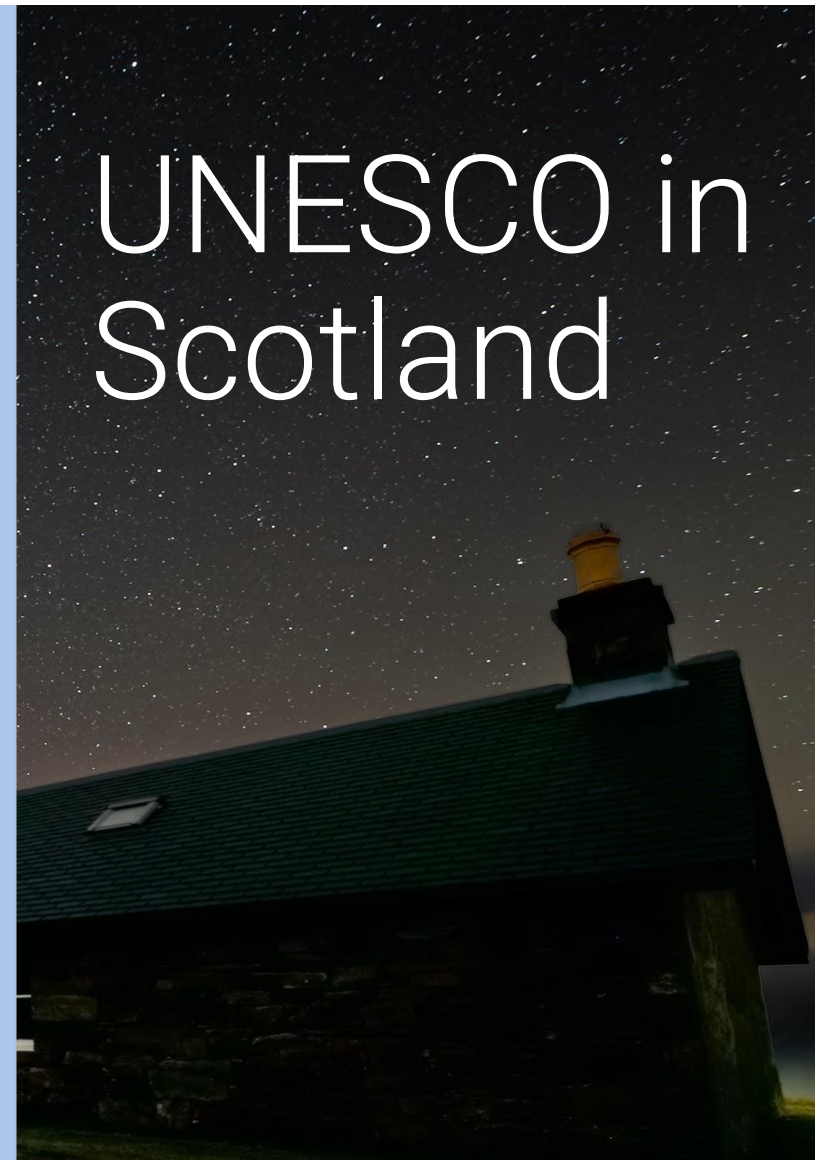
Dark Skies

FESTIVAL

FÈIS NAN SPEURAN DORCHA



UNESCO in Scotland





WESTER ROSS
BIOSPHERE

Bringing people & nature
together to create a positive,
sustainable future



Our principles



Benefiting people and nature to build thriving societies in harmony with the landscape



International recognition as a member of UNESCO's global network



Community led by people who live and work in the Biosphere



Problem solving to promote sustainable economic, social and environmental practices



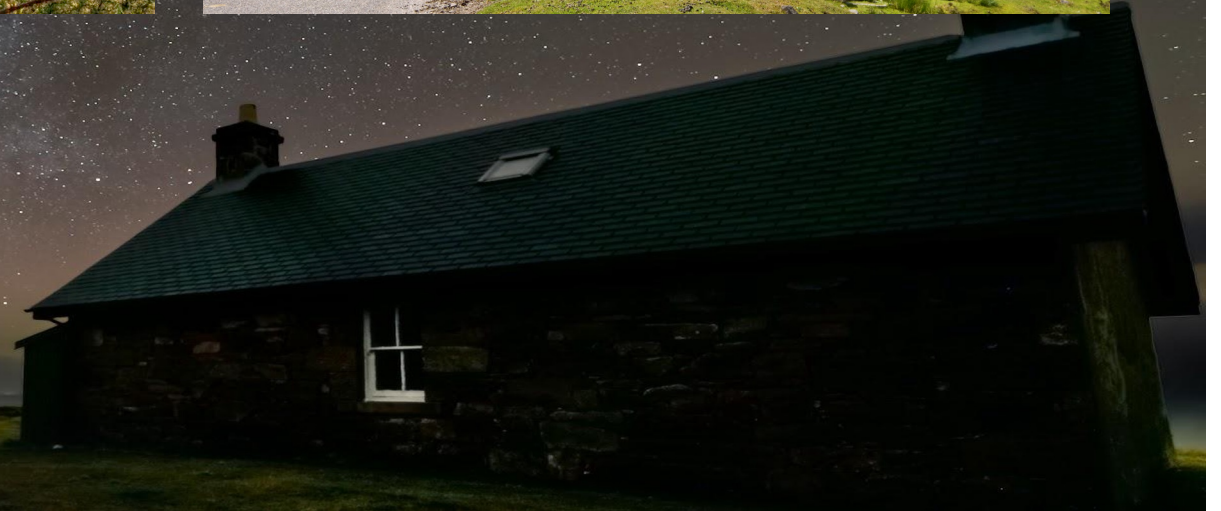
Landscape-scale approach to find the balance between conservation and development

www.wrb.scot





The Attraction





The Reality

- A place where people live and work
- Limited infrastructure (transport, services, etc).

Dark Sky Tourism



Looking Up, Looking Forward Dark Sky Tourism

Webinar: 1 March 2022, 7pm - 8pm



Join us in this interactive webinar to learn from experts and practitioners about the opportunities our dark skies can offer to our communities and businesses.

See full details and book your place on Eventbrite

For more info: events@wrb.scot

www.wrb.scot [f](#) WesterRossBiosphere [@](#) WesterRossBiosphere

This project is supported by



Panellists:

Hannah Dalgleish,
Postdoctoral researcher in
dark skies and society,
University of Oxford

Catriona Waddington, Wild
Skies Shetland

Jeannot McCarthy, Corwar
Dark Sky Glamping, Galloway
Forest Park

Elizabeth Tindal, Freelance
Dark Sky Ranger



WESTERROSS

Dark Skies

FESTIVAL

FÈIS NAN SPEURAN DORCHA

From idea to conception

Festival Aim:

To promote the understanding of how important the dark skies are for our health and well being, how they affect life on our planet and to bring people together across the Biosphere to share, learn, create and explore!



WESTER ROSS



FESTIVAL

FÈIS NAN SPEURAN DORCHA

NOVEMBER 2023

Wilderness Fit & Yoga Jen

SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER
11AM-2-30PM

MEET AT ULLAPOOL
VILLAGE HALL

TICKETS: £45 PP

JOIN YAZ FOR A FUN & CREATIVE
OUTDOOR FOREST FITNESS SESSION.
ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME!

MOTIVATION TO KEEP MOVING IN
THE DARKER MONTHS AND GET SOME
NEW IDEAS FOR FUN OUTDOOR
WORKOUTS.

FINISH THE SESSION WITH AN
OPTIONAL SEA DOCK & ENJOY A FIRE
PIT & WARMING WINTER SOUP &
SWEET TREAT, FOLLOWED BY A
VINYASA YOGA SESSION WITH JEN IN
ULLAPOOL VILLAGE HALL



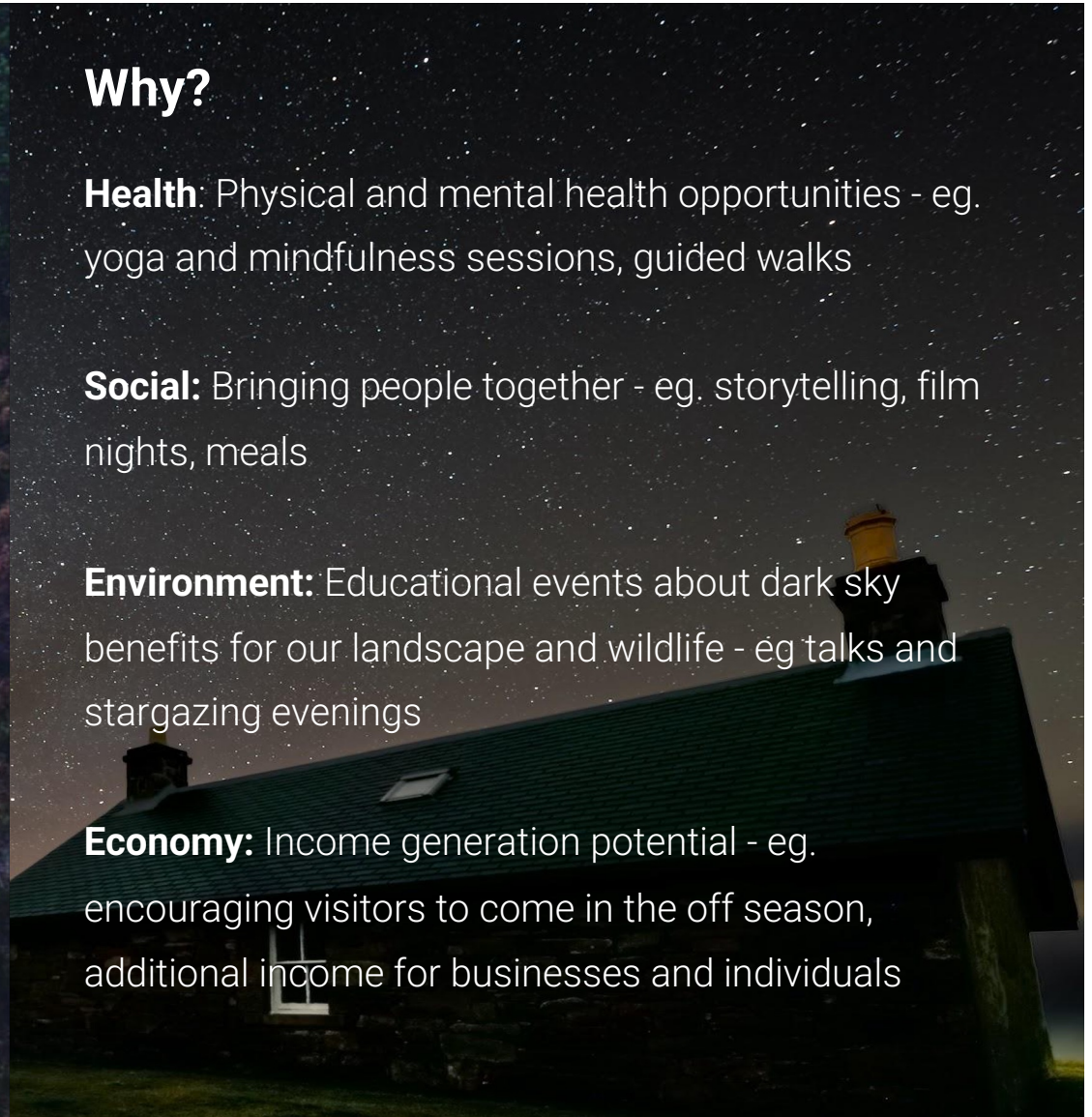
Why?

Health: Physical and mental health opportunities - eg. yoga and mindfulness sessions, guided walks

Social: Bringing people together - eg. storytelling, film nights, meals

Environment: Educational events about dark sky benefits for our landscape and wildlife - eg talks and stargazing evenings

Economy: Income generation potential - eg. encouraging visitors to come in the off season, additional income for businesses and individuals



How?

Defining our Role as WRB - PR

Free training - how to incorporate stargazing into your business or event

Fringe events - inviting local businesses to participate

Funding

Sponsorship / In-kind support

Donations

WESTER ROSS



Dark Skies
FESTIVAL
FÈIS NAN SPEURAN DORCHA

NOVEMBER 2023

Dark & Quiet Skies
International Responses to a Global Challenge

TUES 14TH NOV, 7PM

TALK BY
DR EMMA FELBER
UK SPACE AGENCY

AT THE OLD
SCHOOLHOUSE
INVERASDALE

BOOK VIA EVENTBRITE



For more info contact Louise:
louise@westerlochewe.com
or Liz: 01445 781216

Learn more about the Dark Skies Festival : www.wrb.scot

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Dark Skies
FESTIVAL
FÈIS NAN SPEURAN DORCHA

FRIDAY 8TH
COIGACH COMMUNITY HALL

SATURDAY 9TH
APPLECROSS COMMUNITY HALL

SUNDAY 10TH
KINLOCHEWE VILLAGE HALL

WESTER ROSS BIOSPHERE & COSMOS
PLANETARIUM PRESENTS

PLANETARIUM SHOWS
DECEMBER 2023

Get your tickets at Eventbrite: Wester Ross Dark Skies Festival 2023
For full details visit: www.wrb.scot

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS





ENGAGEMENT 2022-24

PLANETARIUM SHOWS

16

TOTAL
ATTENDEES

406

10

FRINGE
EVENTS

2022

PLANETARIUM SHOWS

17

TOTAL
ATTENDEES

575

13

FRINGE
EVENTS

2024

PLANETARIUM
SHOWS

TOTAL
ATTENDEES

766

17

2023

19

FRINGE
EVENTS





Astronomical art workshop



Guided Walk with a Highlife Highland Countryside Ranger to learn about nocturnal animals



A talk by Cosmos Planetarium about
Black Holes



Stargazing evening and talk with
Honorary Research Fellow, Dr Alec
Mackinnon from Glasgow University



Left - handmade signage to promote dark skies related books and gifts at a community shop
 Right - series of events held in a village hall in the south of the Biosphere

WESTER ROSS BIOSPHERE 2023

DARK SKIES

FESTIVAL IN KIRKTON HALL

A CELEBRATION OF OUR BEAUTIFUL NIGHT SKIES

★ SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER ★

11:30am - 1pm	ASTRONOMICAL ART	• WITH PROTECTIONS FROM THE JAMES WEBB TELESCOPE : DRAWING, PAINTING, PRINTING
2pm - 4pm	CREATIVE CONSTELLATIONS	• LEARN ABOUT CONSTELLATIONS & INVENT YOUR OWN!
7pm - 10pm	COSMIC CEILIDH	• DELICIOUS FOOD • • MUSIC • SCIENCE • POEMS • ART

★ SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER ★

7pm -	★ STARGAZING WITH ASTROPHYSICISTS FROM THE COSMOS PLANETARIUM
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ALL EVENTS ARE **FREE** PLEASE BOOK A PLACE FOR THE STARGAZING AT EVENTBRIGHT WESTER ROSS DARK SKIES FESTIVAL 2023 • NO NEED TO BOOK CEILIDH OR ART •

What's in store for 2025?





WESTER ROSS
BLOSPHERE



Lights off Stars ON!

www.wrb.scot
info@wrb.scot

