

ECO CHURCH
SWIFT SURVEY SUMMER 2016

In May of this year, at the time when swifts were arriving from Africa, Mugdock Country Park Rangers applied on our behalf to EDC Community Grant Scheme for a grant of £151. This was to fund the purchase of several pieces of equipment that when assembled would relay recorded swift calls from the nesting boxes which had been installed last year. By mid-June we had secured the grant. To attract swifts searching for nesting sites a cleverly assembled assortment of electronic items were packed into a weather-proof chest. These included a 12 Volt Mobility Scooter Battery which connected to a 30 Watt Solar Panel. This powered an MP3 player which broadcast swift calls twice daily through a loud speaker. Whether we succeeded in attracting any swifts we cannot tell – what we need is a camera placed alongside the boxes!

Our thanks to Malcolm Macewan, a Mugdock Country Park volunteer, who assembled and fitted the equipment.

The equipment was removed on 8 August and will be stored until the swifts return next year.

June McCann-ECO Committee Member