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## **Adventure Grant supports Occupational Therapy student to research disabled access to outdoor experiences.**

**21st August 2022**

*A student from Glasgow Caledonian University will travel to Norway to research disabled access to outdoor spaces, with funding support from the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant.*

Linnea Livingston, 26, who is studying for an MSc in Occupational Therapy, will travel to Norway to research the use of design to support the accessibility of outdoor spaces for all, regardless of ability or disability. Prior to her trip, which is planned for Spring 2023, Linnea will speak with representatives from Norwegian disability and tourism organisations to hear their perspectives on the current enablers and barriers to individuals with disabilities in Norway. On arrival in Norway she will research the infrastructure around outdoor spaces and how this may enable or inhibit participation in outdoor tourism for individuals with a range of disabilities.

On receiving the news of the grant offer Linnea said: "I feel incredibly honoured and privileged to be supported by John Muir Trust as a recipient of the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace grant. I'm looking forward to taking on a new adventure and hands-on learning opportunity that will allow me to promote accessibility in tourism and the therapeutic benefits of nature through my studies in occupational therapy."

Jenny Seaman of the John Muir Trust, who administers the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant said: "Linnea impressed the grant panel with her well-planned research and commitment to promoting accessible outdoor experiences in order that more people can benefit from the therapeutic effects of nature and adventure."

Linnea is one of eight successful applicants to the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant in 2022. This grant was established to give people the opportunity to seek out life-changing experiences in wild places in ways which will benefit both the person and the wild places themselves.

### **Editor's Notes**

#### **About The John Muir Trust**

The John Muir Trust is a leading voice for the UK's wild places. Its stewardship of some of Britain's most iconic wild places, including Ben Nevis and Helvellyn, is guided by three freedoms; ensuring nature has the freedom to repair itself, people have the freedom to enjoy the benefits, and communities have the freedom to thrive. For 40 years, the Trust has advocated for the protection of wild places by evidencing their benefit to society. Driven by the belief that wild places are for everyone – it also provides opportunities for people from all walks of life to engage with nature through the John Muir environmental award scheme.

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### **ABOUT THE DES RUBENS AND BILL WALLACE GRANT**

The grant commemorates two former Presidents of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, who each led inspiring and adventurous lives. It was set up to give others an opportunity to follow in their footsteps and experience wild places. Projects should be adventurous, have an educational or scientific component and benefit the wild places themselves. In the decade since its inception the grant has made over 60 awards to a wide variety of recipients.

Bill Wallace, died of heart failure in February 2007 while skiing in the Alps at the age of 73 with two artificial hips.

Des Rubens, was a popular teacher at Craigryston High School in Edinburgh and was killed in June 2016 in an Alpine climbing accident at the age of 63.

Grants are for £200 to £2,000 and open to UK applicants of all ages. Closing date for applications is 15 January each year. Further details on how to apply: <https://www.johnmuirtrust.org/whats-new/grants/des-rubens-and-bill-wallace-grant>

#### **Contact**

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