

# Recent events in Scotland

**Willie Towers**



The James  
**Hutton**  
**Institute**

# James Hutton Institute

- I'm no longer employed....but I try and stay in touch
- Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh annually in June, wide audience:
  - People with 'influence' (Members of the UK and Scottish parliaments), policy, regulatory and land management interests; **corporate approach**
  - General public
    - ▶ In the Education Centre with other organisations
    - ▶ Hands on, **fun approach**

# Royal Highland Show

- Soil of the Show
- In its fourth year
- Three prizes:
  - 'conventional' agriculture
  - Organic management
  - Overall
- Entry rather disappointing..
  - But I'm not sure we could cope with hundreds!



**What about a European Soil of the Year?**

**It will be better than the Eurovision Song Contest!**

# Other events with Soil aspects

- Soil characters, pull ups, fliers for Apps have appeared at:
  - Scottish Game Fair in Perth 2016 and 17
    - A land owning and management audience
  - National and local biodiversity events
    - Ecologists and land owners
  - James Hutton Open Doors event September 2006
    - General public from the local area
- + 'peat restoration in Virtual Reality' (intriguing!)

And the characters live on!

**Open Farm  
Sunday, June  
2017 at our  
Dundee site**







# Review of Scotland's Soils website



and are moved across the land, it is usually caused by water flowing over the land or by the wind. Soil erosion occurs across the country, in natural as well as cultivated land, in the uplands and the lowlands.



# British Society of Soil Science

Home > Education

## Young Soil Explorers



# World Congress of Soil Science 2022

- Hosted by the British Society of Soil Science in Glasgow
- I am a member of the Congress Working Group
- Roles still to be finalised but I am likely to have a role in outreach activities (so with links to Division IV vice-presidents)
  - This aspect was central to our successful bid
  - Glasgow is well endowed with suitable venues of all sizes
    - ▶ Glasgow Science Centre
    - ▶ Kelvingrove Art Gallery
    - ▶ Plus many smaller venues



**SEE YOU IN 2022**

We will be hosting the  
2022 World Congress of Soil Science  
in Glasgow, Scotland.



**PEOPLE  
MAKE  
GLASGOW**





# World Congress of Soil Science 2022

- Open Jar Collective <https://soilcity.org.uk/>
- Based in Glasgow
- Describe themselves as:
  - ‘Open Jar Collective is a group of socially engaged artists.’
  - Their aim is to ‘to reimagine the city as if soil matters’
- They are as much a group of activists rather than artists (although that is their original vocation)
- Highly motivated, articulate, value soil from a different perspective.....but short on funding.



# World Congress of Soil Science 2022

- Workshop in November 2016
- Started with a Soil Soup workshop. (My first one!)
  - We brought a selection of ingredients, soil samples, stories and words. We wrote imagined narratives from the perspective of our soil samples, followed by a shared meal.
  - in the evening a journalist led a discussion on what a declaration, manifesto, or statement about soil might involve.
    - ▶ What do we know about soil?
    - ▶ What are our hopes and visions?
    - ▶ What actions can we take?



**SEE YOU IN 2022**

We will be hosting the  
2022 World Congress of Soil Science  
in Glasgow, Scotland.



**PEOPLE  
MAKE  
GLASGOW**



# World Congress of Soil Science 2022





# World C

- Glasgow has developed a thriving

- But de

- This group engaged

- Using local gardens) about so

- Definit to WC



2022

has developed

al pollution

gh community

s (community  
e thinking

contribute  
welcome

