





#### Autumn 2017

Welcome to the very first Red Squirrels United seasonal newsletter! We will be keeping you up to date and celebrating the latest project successes four times a year.



# **Knowledge Fair 2017**

As our partners work across the UK it is essential that we come together to share our findings and learn from one another. The first annual Red Squirrels United Knowledge Fair took place in March, where red squirrel conservation specialists from around the UK and Europe came together to discuss the latest findings of their work. Taking place in Belfast it was the perfect opportunity to head out to the Mourne Mountains for a bit of red squirrel watching too! We are currently planning the 2018 Knowledge Fair which will be taking place in Bangor so do check our website to find out more as plans come together.

### What is Red Squirrels United?

Red Squirrels United is the biggest ever national coalition of organisations working together on red squirrel conservation across the UK. All this is made possible thanks to funding from EU LIFE14 and the Heritage Lottery Fund. There are 2.5 million grey squirrels in the UK compared to just 140,000 red squirrels. We are working together to monitor and prevent the further spread of grey squirrels into the red squirrel strongholds. In addition, we are delivering lots of community events that raise awareness of red squirrels. Of course, our conservation work is underpinned by rigorous social and scientific research and we are collaborating and sharing best practise. It's very exciting times! To find out more about the programme visit the Red Squirrels United website.





# Red Squirrel Awareness Week

Did you get involved in Red Squirrel Awareness Week? 23 September to 1 October was an amazing week of events and awareness raising across the whole conservation sector. The media put the spotlight on the success of regional red squirrel conservation successes and many people were given the opportunity to see their first red squirrel.

# Stories please!

Are you volunteering or working on a red squirrel conservation project? Firstly, thank you! Secondly, do tell us about it. We have Facebook and Twitter pages that we want to flood with your stories. In addition, our YouTube page launched last month with our first Red Squirrels United video. If you have any video footage or would like to do some filming for us we'd love to hear from you.



Red Squirrels United is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and EU LIFE14 and brings together organisations from across the UK to help protect red squirrels by raising public awareness and engaging community groups.

LIFE14 NAT/UK/000467

For regular updates follow our <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> pages.