

Crow behaviour at Shewalton Wood

In February 2021, while clearing vegetation round and inside the plastic tubes protecting the trees planted in 2020 at the Shewalton Wood meander, lots of bits and bobs were found. It was known that crows had been depositing items inside these tubes, but the amount and range of material was a big surprise. The trees nearest to the woods had an astonishing amount. 50% of them had stuff in them, ranging from wood, stones, bones, glass, plastic, metal and ceramics. The conclusion is that this has something to do with the courting behaviour of the crows but, on asking the local bird watching community, other examples of this couldn't be sourced.

The stuff could have been collected nearby on the reserve or from farther afield e.g. landfill. Probably both.

Scottish Wildlife Trust volunteer, Christine McGovern, cleaned and sorted everything and photos are attached below. On seeing a piece of crockery with "Tent Hall" on it, research lead her to a building in Glasgow that was part of the temperance movement in late 19th and early 20th century.



glass



bones



cans



stones



plastic



wood



ceramics



Tent Hall pieces

Tent Hall

People's Palace, Social History File

[Add to Album](#) | [View Larger Image*](#)

**Open in New Window*



Tent Hall in Steel Street, possibly in the 1920s.

Tent Hall was built in 1876 for the United Evangelical Association, which had been meeting since 1874 in a mission tent on Glasgow Green. The Association was heavily involved in the temperance movement. On Saturday evenings, traditionally a time when many people binged on the "demon drink", the Association offered the alternative entertainment of lantern slide shows that illustrated the evils of alcohol and extolled the virtues of total abstinence.

In 2002 there were proposals to redevelop Tent Hall into loft style apartments with a private residential courtyard garden.