



# Woodland wonders to discover

## *Annasan coille*

Pronounced: Annasan colya



A pied flycatcher at its nest.

The upland oakwoods *coille-dharaich* of Clunes, the Dark Mile *Mìle Dhorcha* and Glen Loy have a range of special plants and wildlife. At different times of the year you may be able to spot one or another of the species described below.

Ferns, lichens, mosses and liverworts are particularly rich in all three oakwoods. Look out for Lungwort - a big flat lichen, also known as "lung lichen", which is a good indicator of undisturbed natural habitat and is so-called because its surface looks like the cross-section of a lung. The oakwoods are also home to many small birds: look (and listen) for wood warblers, tree pipits and the occasional pied flycatcher.

The fertile soils of the Dark Mile are rich in plants - including dog's mercury, enchanter's nightshade and tufted hair grass.

On grassy verges, look out for pearl-bordered fritillaries - these are rare in the UK, but not uncommon in the Highlands *A' Ghàidhealtachd*. They can sometimes be seen flitting amongst violets. You may also be lucky enough to see chequered skipper butterflies - they appear early in the summer and can often be seen amongst bluebells, bugle and thistles.



Pearl bordered fritillary: named because of white spots on the underside of the wings.



A tree pipit with its young.

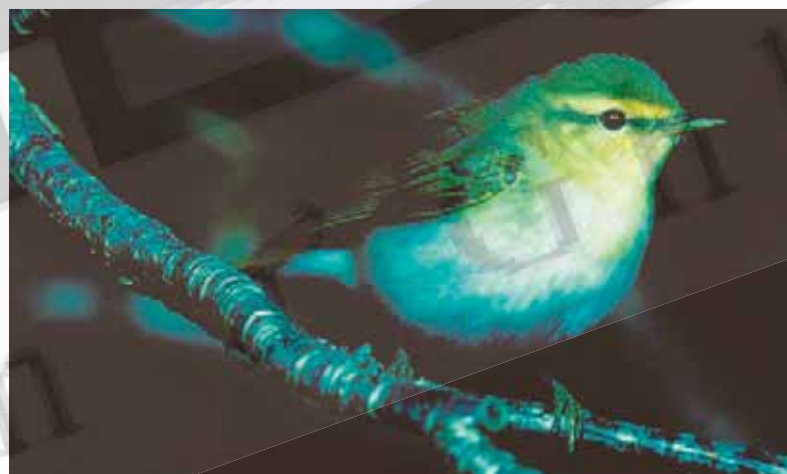


Lungwort: a traditional herbal remedy for breathing problems.



### Did you know...?

Chequered skipper males are highly territorial and competitive. They perch on the tips of small shrubs or bracken, ready to defend their territories from other males and to look out for females. If another male appears, the defending male will use fast, darting flights to scare the intruder off.



Wood warbler: this bird likes to nest on the ground.