

# RANGER PORTRAIT

**Shona Irvine, Ranger in  
in the Cairngorm Mountains, Scotland**

## **Main duties:**

- pathwork & habitat management
- environmental education & guided tours
- monitoring compliance with conservation regulations

## **Why is your work important to you?**

I feel very connected to nature, especially to the mountains. I really feel like I'm part of the landscape and want to enable other people to feel this connection too.

## **What is your greatest motivator even when it's hard working out there?**

I think it's that view we sometimes get when we're out somewhere and can see mountains for miles and miles. It kind of puts you in your place, a tiny thing in this vast landscape. But we're also part of it. So I really want to do my bit to protect it for our time and for future generations.

## **Your biggest moment of luck during work?**

This year we have been lucky to enable every child from the local primary school to visit Cairngorm Mountain. With the younger children we led some fantastic outside active play, and with the older classes we did a talk and then tree planting. It's days like these that make the job meaningful and interesting.



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