

An introduction to carrion beetles (Silphidae):

## Much more than beasties on dead things!



**Date** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Time** 11 am – 4 pm

**Venue** The Ecology Centre

They may have a grisly reputation, but carrion beetles are a fascinating group. Some are hunters, others show impressive strength by burying small mammal carcasses! They also have another side – unusually, with some carrion beetles both parents care for the young. Not only are they important decomposers, they can help forensic investigations.

- Learn more about these intriguing creatures
- Gain experience in survey, ID and use of microscopes
- Only 20 species recorded in the UK, mostly large

Led by Ashleigh Whiffin of National Museums Scotland (and a founder of the National Silphidae Recording Scheme).



*No experience necessary. We will spend time indoors and outdoors. Please note that the day will involve some microscope work, viewing preserved beetle specimens and small mammal carrion.*

**Places are FREE but limited, so booking is essential.**

For more information and to book a place, please contact Fife Nature:

[nature.info@fife.gov.uk](mailto:nature.info@fife.gov.uk) or call 03451 55 55 55 ext 402 270