

Cormonachan Woodlands

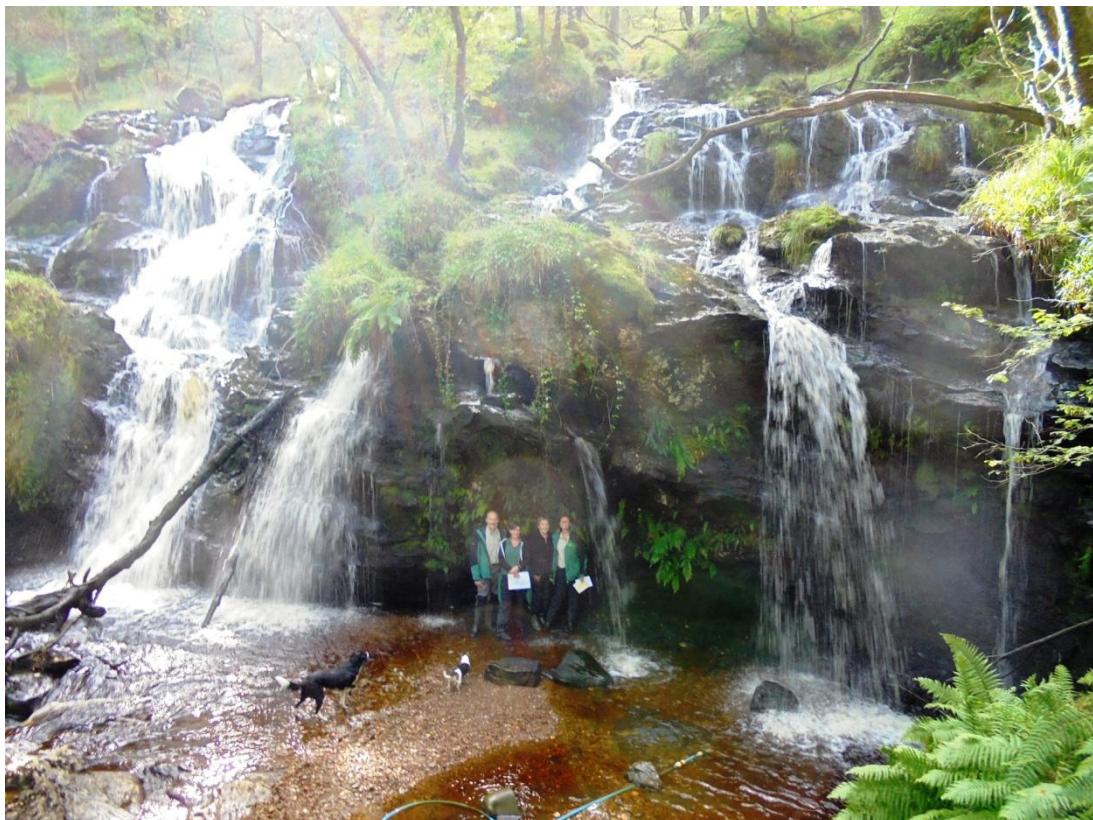
Sent: 23rd January 2019

To: All Members of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

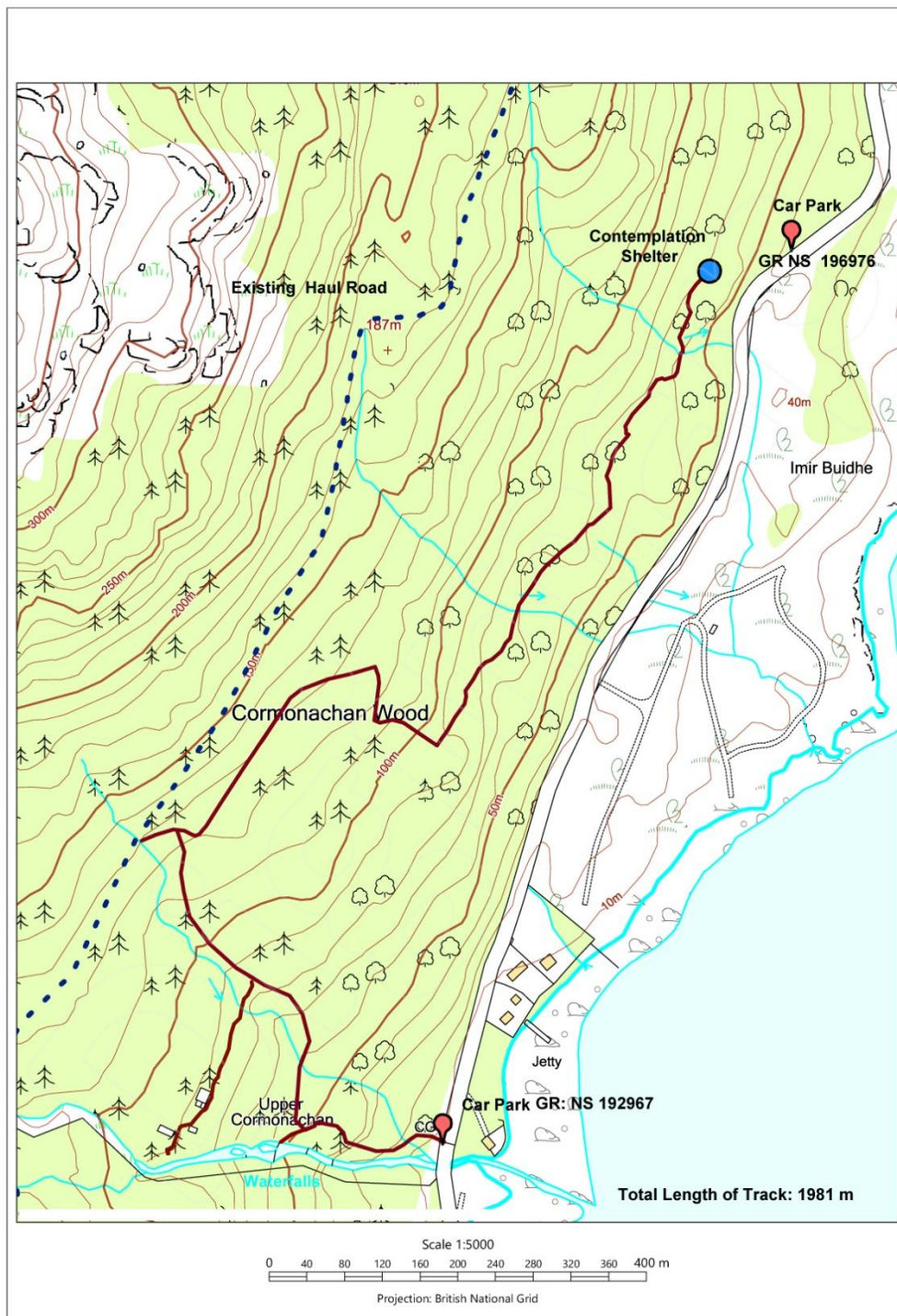
Cormonachan Woodlands Association Members Update No 32

The Latest News - <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/news.html>
and Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan> are updated
regularly so in between Members Updates please look at these for news.

"Upper Cormonachan Paths" Project



This big project involves the construction of 2 km of new paths from the Contemplation Shelter to the Forest Road, Upper Cormonachan Old Village, the Waterfalls and down to another car park.



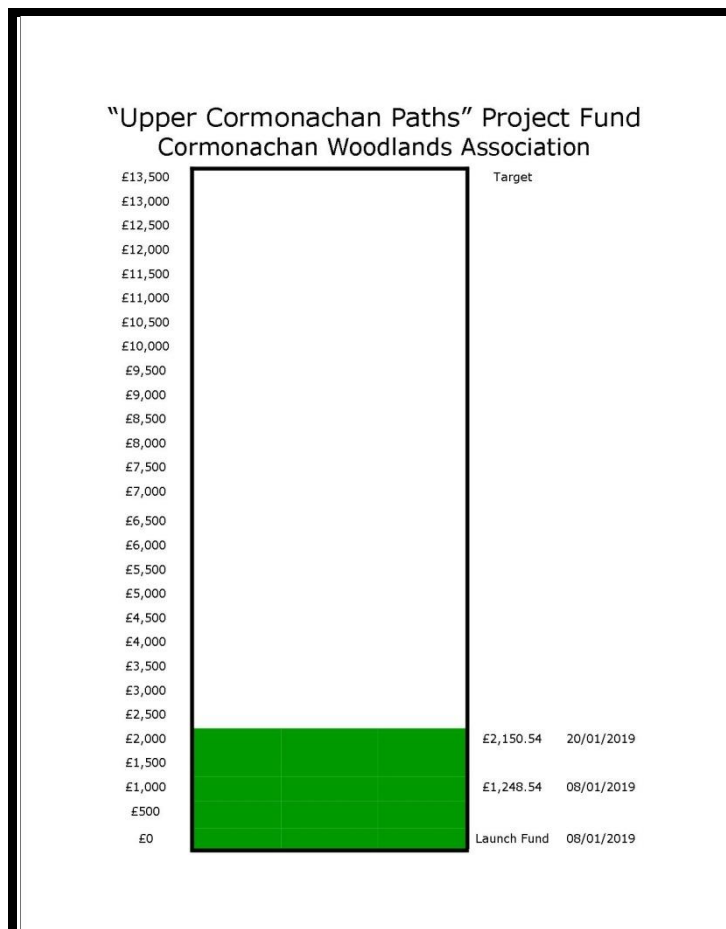
The route of the proposed new paths from the Contemplation Shelter to the Forest Road, Upper Cormonachan Old Village, the Waterfalls and down to another car park, the same size as the present one. The plan is shown on the present car park's notice board.

The cost of the project will now be £269,570.00 including interpretation signage, plus VAT and of course funding and donations will be necessary.

This amount is less than reported in the last Members Update No 31 as two bridges have been changed to two culverts and the rate per tonne for 2,700 tonnes of material for the paths has been reduced by negotiation for the quantities to be supplied by the quarry.

Whilst this is a lot of money, grant funding through SRDP, a government funding organisation under the Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate that has set payment rates for path construction and ancillaries should pay for most of the path work. Our Association is already registered and approved following agreement with Forest Enterprise Scotland early last year for the CWA to manage Cormonachan Woodlands. We can also apply to quite a number of other organisations for funding. Some of these do require some local funding through donations to show that there is local interest in the project so we are going to look for 5% of the project costs from donations, an amount of £13,500.00.

We have now launched the "Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund" and in the first 14 days we have received £2,150.54 towards our target from members donations and the GoRaise donations.



On 4th January 2019, our planning permission application was submitted to the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park Authority and was validated on 16th January for the "Upper Cormonachan Paths" project. We meet the objectives of the local Loch Goil Community Action Plan and the National Park's own plans.

We are grateful to the Friends of Loch Lomond & the Trossachs for helping to support this project that has written support from the Argyll & Bute MP and MSP, Cowal Ward Councillor, Lochgoil Community Council, Forest Enterprise Scotland, the Community Partnership of Loch Lomond & Trossachs, Community Woodlands Association and local businesses. The Lochgoil Community Trust and Carrick Castle Community Trust are supporting the paths project.

This is going to be a big project but the result in the end will open up all of the 58.9 ha of Cormonachan Community Woodlands to members and visitors and boost tourism to the Loch Goil area for local businesses.

The plans for the proposed paths and the car park are displayed in the Cormonachan Woodlands Association's notice board in the car park.

Members comments:

This is wonderful news and I am very proud to belong to the Association. If I can be there on a volunteer day I shall certainly come along. F.M.

I spent a couple of hours on New Year's morning walking the proposed path site with my trusty hound, we reversed the walk again two days later, she loves it too, quite steep in bits but wonderful views. It will surely be an asset to our community. F.W.

We would love to hear your comments now you know the project details.

Membership of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

The current membership for the year to date for 2018/2019 stands at 104 members of which 75 are Full Individual Members, 18 are Associate Members, 4 are Life Members, 4 are Corporate Members, 1 is an Associate Corporate Member and 2 are Child Members (free). Membership to support the running of the Association is very important and those members that are able to volunteer help with the essential maintenance of the woodlands, the paths and structures.

We would like to remind our members that the Association has no paid staff, the committee members offer their time freely as volunteers and member volunteers help to maintain the community woodlands, the paths and structures.

Past Volunteers Days - 1st April to 30th November 2018

Forty six (46) volunteers have helped seventy nine (79) times in Cormonachan Community Woodlands over the last eight months but actually in April (2 days), May (1), September (3), October (3) and November (2) plus strimming the paths in June, July & August by our seven strimming volunteer operators. These volunteers were CWA full members (18), CWA Associate members (4), National Park volunteers (14), Fife Conservation Group volunteers (9) & a local non-member (1).

We would like to thank all our physical volunteers for their amazing help in maintaining the woodlands. We would also like to thank all our other members for their financial membership support as the Association only has its membership subscriptions to pay for the running of the Association.

Check out our Volunteering page on our website:-
<http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/cormonachan-history/volunteering/> for more information on the different types of volunteering.

Future Volunteers Days

The next physical Volunteers Days for Spring 2019:-

February 2019

Friday 22nd February 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Saturday 23rd February 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Sunday 24th February 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

March 2019

Friday 22nd March 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Saturday 23rd March 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

April 2019

Friday 26th April 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Saturday 27th April 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Sunday 28th April 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

May 2019

Friday 17th May 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Saturday 18th May 2019 from 10.00 to 16.00 hrs.

Members will be welcome to help mornings, afternoons or both on any or all of these days!

We do hope that as many members as possible can volunteer over these months - put a note on your calendars or in your diaries now for 2019.

Those that volunteer enjoy the experience and we hope more members will give volunteering a 'go'... You will be very welcome!

It would help us enormously to know if and when you can help volunteer 'in advance' please as the National Park volunteers do by e-mailing Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk - Thank you!

Future Projects & Projects Completed

The Future Projects page has been altered to show those projects completed and the projects still to be achieved:- <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/cormonachan-history/future-projects/>

This is going to be a big project but the result in the end will open up all of the 58.9 ha of Cormonachan Woodlands to members and visitors and boost tourism to the Loch Goil area for local businesses.

Red Squirrel Hide Update

Since the Red Squirrel Hide was erected in March 2018, the donation box has received **£97.20** which is very helpful as that money goes towards feeding the red squirrels and pine martens that are currently getting though 130 kilos of nuts a year that costs about £155 pa.

Training Update

We have managed to obtain a grant of £3,944.80 from Forestry Commission Scotland to train six of our volunteer members in pesticide spraying with some additional equipment, PPE and pesticide. The training takes place on 22nd & 23rd January 2019 with assessments on 4th & 5th February 2019. This is important training to help rid the invasive Rhododendron ponticum after it has been cut down and the roots and any re-growth can then be sprayed by fully trained volunteer members.

We are likely to have two, 2-day Emergency First Aid Courses in 2019. One will be after April 2019 and another at the end of the year that will be for renewal of members current certificates that expire after 3 years.

If you would like to be trained in First Aid please let the Secretary know. As we get grants for this training, it would be free to members. The cost for the 2-day training is £450.00 for up to 12 members.

Free Funds for Cormonachan Woodlands Association

GoRaise has now raised **£143.93** to Cormonachan Woodlands Association from just eight of supporters (4 full members, 2 associate members & 2 non-members) that regularly purchase on line and at no cost to themselves! Ninety seven purchases have been made to date donating £143.93 to the "Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund".

All members could help raise free donations for the Cormonachan Woodlands Association too, just from shopping online. Join here today... <https://www.goraise.co.uk/cormonachan-woodlands-association/?refid=3950> and then when registered add the 'Donation Reminder' <https://www.goraise.co.uk/donation-reminder/>.

There are over 3,000 online retailers that take part in the scheme to give commission donations to charities and not-for-profit organisations such as ours, including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, TK Maxx, Trainline, Booking.com and so many well known companies. There is absolutely **NO** cost to you; we have no idea what you buy so why not help raise funds for the Cormonachan Woodlands Association's Project Fund.

Stay or stray? ✈️ Latest Travel offers...

Trainline

Travel by train or bus all over Europe and save an average of 51% when you book your tickets in advance!!

Raise up to 1.5%

Flybe

Cheap flights for the UK and abroad. No debit card fees. ATOL protected.

Raise up to 0.5%

National Trust Holidays

The National Trust offers a selection of holiday cottages, campsites, bunkhouses and bothies set in spectacular locations.

Raise up to 1.5%

Booking.com

Inspiration on where to take your pets on a great British holiday as well as places to chill out in Chile. They have it all!

Raise up to 2.5%

Expedia

Check out Expedia's daily travel offers. Great cheap flights, car and hotel deals. Find your perfect holiday or city break and save now on your next trip.

Raise up to 6%

HomeAway

Over 2 million unique places to stay. From villas to cottages, and luxury pads to cabins.

Raise up to 1%

Groupon

Groupon is an easy way to get huge discounts while discovering fun activities in your city. Get unbeatable deals on things to do, see and eat.

Raise up to 7%

Little Bird

Daily deals website offering the best family days out, kids activities, products and services all at up to 70% off.

Raise up to 3%

LEGOLAND Holidays

January Splash & Play breaks from £99 per family. Bring the fun indoors and treat your family to a winter getaway packed with exciting surprises and exclusive benefits.

Raise up to 2.5%

Buyagift.co.uk

Buyagift are the UK's leading online retailer of gift experiences. From Spa Days to Ferrari Driving, Hot Air Ballooning to Days Out, there's something to suit all tastes and budgets.

Raise up to 5%

Latest News

Please keep up to date by regularly looking at our Latest News page:- <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/news/> and by following our Facebook page too at <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan>.



Tail Piece...

The minutes to the last committee meeting held on 8th January 2019 can be viewed at:- <http://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/cormonachan-history/minutes-of-meetings/>

Enjoy walking in these wonderful ancient oak and hazel community woodlands and please ask your friends to support the Association's work.

Cormonachan Woodlands Association -
Douglas Locke, Secretary (Voluntary)

E: Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk

T: 01301 703098 M: 07748 130976

W: www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cormonachan>