



Sent: 28th March 2018

To: All Members of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association

Cormonachan Woodlands Association Members Update No 27

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.

Annual Membership Renewal

The new financial year for the Cormonachan Woodlands Association commences on 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 so would all members please renew their membership if they have not already done so.

This is very important to the Association as annual membership subscriptions are the only income source it has for the running of the Association. These subscriptions pay for insurance that now covers third party liability, the buildings it owns (Red Squirrel Hide, Shed and Contemplation Shelter) and all its equipment and tools. The running expenses also include website hosting and domain renewal, stationery, servicing equipment (chainsaw & strimmers), fuel for these, leaflets and other incidentals.

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.

The current membership for the year to 31st March 2018 stands at 76 members of which 55 are Full Individual Members, 11 are Associate Members, 5 are Life Members, 2 are Corporate Members and 3 are Child Members (free). Volunteering to remain or become a member is extremely important to the Association as this is the only income stream it has to run the Association and cover all its running costs. All other expenditure comes from funding applications and donations to the Association for its projects.

Red Squirrel Hide Update

The Red Squirrel Hide and the storage shed are now operational but have the finer points still to be completed. These include the second coat of wood protection that we hope volunteers will put on, on Sunday 8th April. The first coat was put on by Donibristle Primary School children visiting Ardroy from Fife. The one way film can only be put on the glass once the painting has been done. The area outside the doors has yet to be gravelled and the pathway down to the hide area needs to grass over. Inside the hide there is a First Aid box and Eye Wash Eye care box mounted on a wall. The hide is open all year round with a self closing door system. There is also information on red squirrels to read. We are also grateful to Logspan from Milton, Dumbarton for donating to the Association a bench that will shortly to added to the hide. To see the red squirrels, you have to be patient and wait for them to come to the feeders that they do at various times of the day. Please record the times you see them on the white board. There is a donation box in the hide for squirrel feed. They are currently getting though 100 kilos of nuts a year that costs over £140 pa. We are grateful to Ardroy for donating nuts and to Frances Walker for keeping the feeders topped up.

Theft from Cormonachan Woodlands

Those of you who follow Cormonachan on Facebook will know that the Association has had two thefts from the car park area last week. The first was 6 x 20 kg bags of grey gravel in B & Q bags with a value of £2.47 each removed by someone between Sunday afternoon 18th and Thursday 22nd March. These had just been delivered and were to be moved individually by wheelbarrow for the outside of the Red Squirrel Hide. The second theft was 3 x 5 ft 75 x 75 mm fence posts (value £3.12 each) that had been stacked in the gated area behind the wire fence. These were stolen between Friday midday 23rd and Saturday lunchtime on 24th March. These were for 3 printed information signs still to be erected at the next volunteers day. Both of these thefts were reported to the police. To steel these low value items from the community woodlands is unforgivable and concerning that there is such low life in our community.

The Walking Theatre Company - Sunday 15th April 2018

We would like to remind you we have arranged in conjunction with Argyll Arts Collective two performances in Cormonachan Woodlands by The Walking Theatre Company.

1) For Children: 2 pm - 'The Celtic Tree Walk, An Enchanted Forest'

This performance will last up to 1 hour 20 minutes.

Tickets from Argyll Arts Collective - (argyllartscollective@gmail.com).
£6.00 each or £20.00 for family ticket of 4.

2) For Adults: 6.30 pm - 'Conference of the Faeries' an adaptation on Shakespeare's 'Midsummer Night Dream'

This performance will last 1 hour 30 minutes.

Tickets £8.00 each from Argyll Arts Collective - (argyllartscollective@gmail.com).

Minibus transport will be available from Lochgoilhead car park.



Argyll Arts Collective presents

A walk through Cormonachan Woodlands with The Walking Theatre Company Sunday 15th April 2018

Family Show at 2.00pm (Duration 1 hour 20mins approx)
'The Celtic Tree Walk, An Enchanted Forest'
£6 per ticket - £20 Family ticket

Evening show at 6.30pm (Duration 1 hour 30 mins approx)
'Conference of the Faeries'
(Adaption of Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream)
£8 per ticket

Minibus leaves 30 mins before each
performance from Lochgoilhead car park
Limited parking at Cormonachan Woodlands

For more information and tickets - Joni
07765016543 argyllartscollective@gmail.com
or check out Facebook

Don't be an ass -
wear suitable clothes and
shoes for the weather!

Leave No Trace

Cormonachan Woodlands
Argyll, Shetland, Lewis

'Contemplation Shelter' Update

We are pleased to tell you that we have now had £6,815.10 specifically donated to this project 'For Liz' including a grant of £500 from Forestry Commission Scotland for the 3.9m octagonal 'Contemplation Shelter' in memory of Liz Evans that will be sited just off the south west corner of the Squirrel Trail with a new path to it. The total cost will be £6,796.60.

The shelter has now been granted planning permission; the structure has arrived at Logspan's store in Milton and now we are awaiting the groundwork to be started and completed by Drimsynie Construction. Once the groundwork has been completed, the shelter should be up by May.

There will be a simple memorial plaque on a wall in the Contemplation Shelter for Liz Evans, however inside the shelter's roof when you look up there will be printed triangular panels with quotations from many of those who contributed to this project. There will be an official opening in May.

Volunteers Days

The next Volunteer Day will be on **Sunday 8th April 2018 from 10 am to 4 pm**. We hope our Association's Volunteer Members will be able to help maintain our community woodlands. Let us know if you can help out please with an e-mail to the Secretary - Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk - More information on our Facebook Events section.

Next Volunteers Days:-

Saturday 14th April 2018 from 10.00 to 13.00 hrs.

Sunday 6th May 2018 from 13.00 to 16.00 hrs.

There will be a break over June to August to avoid the midge season however the paths during this period will still have to be strimmed. Suitable sunny & windy days will try to be chosen at shorter notice and hopefully as many of our ten trained strimmers will help to keep the paths under control during the summer period.

Eleven Fife volunteers that requested to come back in February 2018 to continue felling the remaining 19 under-planted Sitka spruce trees under our felling licence in Area 1 cleared 9 of those big trees leaving 10 to do in the autumn when they want to come back again. Their contribution over the years has been invaluable.

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

Free Funds for Cormonachan Woodlands Association

GoRaise has now raised **£82.96** to Cormonachan Woodlands Association from just six of our members (4 full members and 2 associate members) that regularly purchase on line and at no cost to themselves! Sixty three purchases have been made to date donating £82.96 to the Project Fund.

You too can 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> 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 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 Funds. A new project fund has been launched for April 2018 for a path to the Cormonachan Waterfalls and Upper Cormonachan old township and we hope other members will join in. We should be able to get a 90-95% grant but will have to find the 5-10% balance through donations. The likely cost of this project will be £40-45,000 and it will take about three years to achieve.

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>.

New Information Signs erected in Cormonachan Woodlands

The Association has so far erected 10 information signs around the community woodlands with 3 more still to put up.

Purchase of the Land at Cormonachan Woodlands Update

At the last committee meeting, a full discussion took place over the positives and negatives of this proposal. It was felt that the Trust should perhaps concentrate on the Lochgoilhead forest area first which should be its first priority. A vote was taken on whether Cormonachan Woodlands and the two other areas suggested to the south of Cormonachan Burn should be included in the project or not. At the present time it was felt that the Association had enough of an area to manage and needed more volunteers to look after the current area so decided unanimously to decline to have Cormonachan Woodlands included in the project.



Tail Piece...

Enjoy walking in these wonderful ancient oak and hazel community woodlands at Cormonachan Woodlands and again please ask your friends to become Guardian Members and support the Association's work.

Cormonachan Woodlands Association -
Douglas Locke, Secretary (Voluntary)

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