

Cormonachan Woodlands

Sent: 15th July 2022

Welcome to Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd.

Cormonachan Community Woodlands - Members Update No 52

The Latest News - <https://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.

Cormonachan Community Woodlands Latest News

1) Fantastic NEWS to report...! Our "Highly Commended" Award...



Jacqui Matthews, Woodlands Manager, Màiri McAllan, Minister for Environment and Land Reform & Dee Locke, Secretary. Photo: Julie Broadfoot

We are absolutely delighted to report that Cormonachan Community Woodlands in Carrick Castle was awarded "Highly Commended" in Scotland's Finest Woods Awards (www.sfwa.co.uk), Community Woodlands Award (Small community woodland group competition) on 24th June 2022 at the Scottish Government's Pavilion at the Royal Highland Show and Dee Locke, Secretary and Jacqui Matthews, Woodlands Manager, accepted the award and plaque from Màiri McAllan, Minister for Environment and Land Reform, who presented the Awards, said: "Scotland boasts a strong woodland heritage that is admired by many countries and its international reputation for good woodland management is well deserved".



JUDGES' SUMMARY

Cormonachan Community Woodlands (CCW) have developed an innovative partnership with Forestry & Land Scotland (FLS) where FLS manage the commercial plantation forestry and CCW manage the natural heritage of the native woodland.

There is a clear vision of what CCW want to achieve, what is less clear is how the community can get more involved in what happens there. We would hope that the appointment of a development worker will enable this.

We also felt that CCW could ask 'more' of FLS in woodland management in woodland expansion and in kind support. As the woodland is within the Loch Lomond National Park and in a National Scenic Area this should be promoted as such.

RECOMMENDATION FOR AN AWARD:

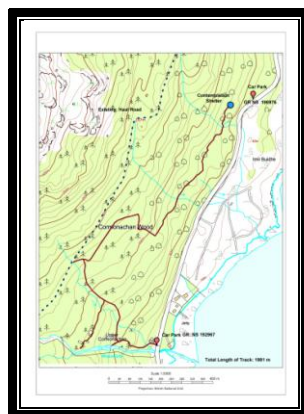
CCW should be highly commended for the continuing development of the native woodland and in particular, the eradication of ponticum infestation and in securing funding to expand the path network in a fragile ecosystem.

2) Upper Cormonachan Heritage Paths Project Update

Having secured the funding for the "Upper Cormonachan Heritage Paths Project", the next stage will be the construction of the paths...

The contractors are McGowan's of Aviemore, specialists in hill and technical land construction and it is expected the 15 weeks of work will commence on 1st September 2022 and finish by 31st December 2022.

The Cormonachan Community Woodlands project management will be shared between Dee Locke, Secretary; Don Kamsley, Chair and Jacqui Matthews, Woodlands Manager.



The new paths that will be opened in 2023

3) Cormonachan Community Woodlands & Argyll Arts Collective presented two FREE Events in the woodlands in Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with The Walking Theatre Company on Friday 3rd June 2022.

CCW obtained full funding for these events from the Supporting Communities Fund 2022 from Argyll & Bute Council so the events were free and were well supported with 39 attending the afternoon performance of 'The Wonderland Adventure' and 32 the evening one of 'Macbeth the Red'. We were grateful to Argyll Arts Collective and the Walking Theatre Company for their respective roles in the events.

4) BBC 'Loggerheads' programme - Series 1 (6 x 30 minutes) is available on BBC iPLAYER Episode 5 (CCW) for the year ahead.

As a matter of interest our CCW episode 5 has now been shown live on BBC 1 twice and on BBC Scotland four times.

5) Annual Subscriptions for 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

On 1st April 2022, members subscriptions came up for renewal. Our Treasurer has asked that any members who haven't yet renewed their subscriptions, would they please do so now. Our Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd bank account is with the Co-operative Bank - Account Number: 68771902 Bank Code: 08-92-50.

Annual Subscription Rates:-

- 1) Adult Individual Full Membership is £10.00 pa (primary or secondary residence in Loch Goil);
- 2) Local Young Persons, aged 16 to 21 inclusive, is £5.00 pa;
- 3) Associate Membership is £5.00 pa (who do not have a local residence);
- 4) Corporate Membership is £50.00 pa (local Loch Goil businesses or organisations) and
- 5) Associate Corporate Membership is £50.00 pa (other businesses or organisations).

Please note that if you wish to add Gift Aid to your subscription which increases a Tax Refund to our charity of 25%, please download the Gift Aid Form here:-

<https://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/admin/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/CCW-Gift-Aid-Form-2022b.pdf>

This form has to be signed by each individual and returned to us for us to apply for Gift Aid.

6) Board Member availability

We are looking for a member who has web site content management and social media experience or who is willing to learn these skills under instruction over the next year. The object is to relieve our Secretary of her Webmaster additional position. Any member who would be interested in this longer term position should contact Dee, the Secretary at Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk. We are also looking for any member who would be interested in supporting the woodlands and the board members for the future.

7) People Counters

The number of visitors to the woodlands through the car park in April 2022 was 1,121 (average 37 per day), this compares with 358 (12 p.d.) in April 2021; May 2022 was 462 (average 15 per day), this compares with 799 (26 p.d.) in May 2021 and in June 2022 was 808 (average 27 p.d.) this compares with 987 (33 p.d.). The total through this entrance was 9,945 in 2021. This year the figures are up by a third on last year.

We have had teething problems with the walk in off the road Clach Bhadach people counter since it was installed, hopefully now remedied. We do have figures for the months of April 2022 as 275 (9 p.d.) and for June 2022 as 148 (5 p.d.).

8) Rhododendron ponticum Clearance

We are currently seeking quotations for the final removal of all the Rhododendron ponticum in the woodlands.

9) Argyll Community Lottery

Argyll Community Lottery is currently raising £182.00 annually from 5% of our members, if you wish to support us, visit...

[Support Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd when you play Argyll Community Lottery - Argyll Community Lottery](#)

For every £1 you spend to win the top prize of £25,000, we receive 50p - our target is still to have 50 members supporting us however we only have 5 supporters at present with 2 members winning £25 each so far.



This is only one way to support our charity, if you buy anything online

please use https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ref=smi_ext_ch_SC050840 or easyfundraising using the links below to register - Thank you.

10) Internet Shopping



The Cormonachan Community Woodlands are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online.

Help us to support Cormonachan Community Woodlands by signing up for FREE on #easyfundraising. You can raise donations whenever you shop online with over 6,000 retailers including John Lewis & Partners, eBay, Argos, ASOS, M&S, B&Q, Bookings.com and more. Plus, we will get a bonus £5 donation when you do!

Sign up today - this will make a BIG difference to us this year:
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=1KQ390&char=243146&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox

Funds raised go to support the maintenance of Cormonachan Community Woodlands.

Remember, you can also support us using Amazon UK:-
https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ref=smi_ext_ch_SC050840 and support Cormonachan Community Woodlands where we get a commission on all purchases direct from Amazon.

Thank you so much!

Tail Piece...



The latest Board Meeting Minutes of 13th July 2022 can be viewed on this link: <https://www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk/minutes-of-meetings/>

And, Finally...

Please put a note in your diary for the date of the Annual General Meeting of Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd as Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7 pm in the Lochgoilhead Village Hall.

Finally, to all members who have hospitality or tourism businesses in Loch Goil, the Secretary has stocks of Cormonachan Community Woodlands and Argyll Forest Park leaflets to promote the area so if you want to add these for your patrons, please e-mail Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk and we will arrange delivery of these leaflets to you.

Contact: Dee (Douglas) Locke, Secretary (Voluntary)
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Highly Commended Award in Scotland's Finest Woods Awards 2022

